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OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS
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UNHCR ACTIVITIES FINANCED BY VOLUNTARY FUNDS: REPORT FOR 1992 - 1993 AND PROPOSED PROGRAMMES AND BUDGET FOR 1994

PART II. ASIA AND OCEANIA

(Submitted by the High Commissioner)

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2.0 OVERVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS IN ASIA AND OCEANIA AND REGIONAL SPECIAL PROGRAMMES

2.0.1 During the period under review, the focus of UNHCR activities in the region began to shift from South-East Asia to South Asia. As a result of serious efforts to bring to a successful conclusion the long-standing Indo-Chinese refugee problem which has affected the region for more than 15 years, including the successful conclusion of the Cambodian repatriation programme and steady progress on the Comprehensive Plan of Action for Indo-Chinese Refugees (CPA), the refugee population in South-East Asia decreased dramatically. In South Asia, however, where two major refugee influxes occurred in Bangladesh and in Nepal in 1992, UNHCR continued to fulfil its international protection mandate and to provide material assistance, while continuing to seek durable solutions for these large groups. UNHCR's preventive action has continued in Sri Lanka, assisting returnees and internally displaced persons in areas affected by internal conflict.

2.0.2 The accession of Cambodia and the Republic of Korea to the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol are very positive developments in the promotion of refugee law in Asia. There are now eleven countries in the region which are parties to one or both instruments: Australia, Cambodia, China, Fiji, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa and Tuvalu. UNHCR conducted a workshop in New Delhi in February 1993 on the mandate of the Office and plans a second one in the near future. Notwithstanding the accessions referred to above, Asia continues, in relative terms, to be the continent with the least number of States party to the international refugee instruments. Accordingly, consultations and negotiations have been initiated in some cases and continued in others in order to secure the accession of the remaining countries in the region. Towards this end, UNHCR welcomes more active participation of Asian countries in the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme (Executive Committee).

2.0.3 The Regional Bureau for Asia has made a determined effort to achieve a durable solution through voluntary repatriation not only for some 370,000 Cambodians, but also for other Afghan, Bhutanese, Indo-Chinese, Myanmar and Sri Lankan refugees. While statistical information is detailed in the following paragraphs, it is useful at this point to draw some lessons from recent experience. One of the most important lessons is the need for UNHCR to be present both in the country of asylum and in the country of origin in order to assure refugees of a safe return. The Cambodian repatriation operation bore witness to this. It was preceded by the Paris Peace Agreement and a Tripartite Agreement between the Royal Thai Government, the Supreme National Council of Cambodia and UNHCR which permitted repatriation in record time. Close cooperation among the parties involved allowed for great

flexibility in modifying the repatriation plan as dictated by unfolding events.

2.0.4 The CPA offered another illustration of the importance of intensive UNHCR counselling of prospective returnees in countries of asylum, as well as of UNHCR assistance and monitoring of the well-being of returnees in their respective countries of origin. This was also borne out in the case of the Lao People's Democratic Republic where, within the context of the CPA, steady progress was achieved in the repatriation of Lao from Thailand and China during the reporting period. The repatriation of Sri Lankan refugees from India started in early 1992 without a UNHCR presence at the point of departure. This presence was established in August and has smoothed the way for a return movement without fear or criticism of coercion. The resumption of voluntary repatriation to Sri Lanka from India has permitted some 29,000 refugees to return safely from India to their homeland. Furthermore, it has led some European countries hosting Sri Lankan asylum-seekers to look into the possibility of returning persons who have not been granted refugee status, thus unblocking procedures for granting asylum to persons who have established a case for status.

2.0.5 Another important lesson to be learned concerning repatriation is the need for UNHCR to phase out its assistance to returnees as other agencies phase in their developmental assistance. This requires prior joint planning and consultation with appropriate non-governmental organizations (NGOs), sister United Nations agencies and Government departments involved in assisting returnees throughout the entire continuum from relief and reintegration to development. Cambodia offers a good example of the initiation of this process through Quick Impact Projects (QIPs), with UNDP and NGOs taking on follow-up responsibility. The link between repatriation and development also illustrated in the case of Viet Nam, where more than 43,000 persons have returned. Reintegration assistance to returnees in their country of origin has become a major focus in the implementation of the CPA. Various types of assistance are offered by the European Community and NGOs in the form of job-creation shemes, small business loans, vocational training, education and health care. Similarly, micro-projects are being initiated in Sri Lanka to assist the reintegration of returnees from India. UNHCR would be ready to adopt the same strategy with other groups of returnees.

2.0.6 A related issue is the selection of implementing partners. UNHCR has been fortunate in finding within the NGO community a reserve of expertise and goodwill which has allowed a fruitful partnership in returnee programmes as well as in assistance programmes in refugee emergencies in Bangladesh and Nepal. While furthering existing collaboration, UNHCR has resolved to strengthen its ties with national NGOs in refugee-hosting countries and those countries in which the Office has a responsibility for returnees. This can take a variety of forms: eliciting the interest of existing NGOs in refugee matters, giving local NGOs administrative support and training to deal with refugee-related emergencies, or encouraging international NGOs to build up

counterpart local NGOs. Hence, UNHCR will focus its attention on cooperating with, building up and training a strong NGO community in the region.

2.0.7 The strategy of prevention which led UNHCR to initiate the concept of safe-havens in Sri Lanka continues to be a major UNHCR policy in that country. There are several hundred thousand internally displaced persons and an unresolved armed conflict between army and opposition forces which has the potential to create a large refugee outflow. To prevent such a situation, UNHCR continues to support the Open Relief Centre (ORC), a haven that is respected by both contending parties. Due to its record of interaction with both sides, UNHCR has been requested to assist in opening a safe humanitarian corridor to the Jaffna peninsula.

Comprehensive Plan of Action for Indo-Chinese Refugees (CPA)

2.0.8 The CPA was adopted at the International Conference on Indo-Chinese Refugees held at Geneva on 13 and 14 June 1989. The Plan, which deals with asylum-seekers and refugees from the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam, has the following main objectives:

- to discourage clandestine departures;
- to assure asylum and access to a status determination process for all asylum-seekers;
- to provide resettlement opportunities for those found to qualify as refugees; and
- to repatriate in safety and dignity those found not to fulfil refugee criteria.

Vietnamese

2.0.9 In mid-1992, after three years of implementation, it was already obvious that the CPA had met with considerable success on the issue of Vietnamese for the following reasons: practically no clandestine departures from the country of origin; well established procedures in first asylum countries for the determination of refugee status; ongoing resettlement of persons found to qualify as refugees; almost completed resettlement of those Vietnamese who had arrived before the cut-off date; and substantial numbers of persons choosing voluntarily to return home. Those positive trends have continued. The numbers of Vietnamese asylum-seekers arriving by boat (71,364 in 1989, 30,936 in 1990, 22,422 in 1991, 55 in 1992, and 58 during the first six months of 1993) clearly illustrate the first point. The first instance refugee status procedures were completed in early 1992 in the Philippines and in early 1993 in Malaysia and Indonesia. They are expected to be completed before the end of 1993 in Thailand and Hong Kong. It is also foreseen that the appeals level procedures will be completed before the end of 1993 in Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines, in early 1994 in Thailand, and before the end of 1994 in Hong Kong. Information on resettlement of refugees is given under the respective country chapters.

2.0.10 The regional rate of voluntary return to Viet Nam cannot quite be compared to the successes described above. However, a total of 916 persons returned in 1989, 6,304 in 1990, 12,109 in 1991, 16,952 in 1992 and 6,794 during the first six months of 1993, making a grand total of 43,075. There are stark differences between countries of first asylum with a cumulative total of 29,916 persons having returned voluntarily from Hong Kong, 7,258 from Thailand, 3,423 from Indonesia, 1,964 from Malaysia, 316 from the Philippines, and 198 from other countries at 30 June 1993.

2.0.11 The reintegration of all returnees is monitored by UNHCR in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by Viet Nam and UNHCR in 1988. UNHCR's monitoring capacity has gradually been increased as the programme has expanded. It is worth noting that visits to and interviews with returnees including all cases with alleged difficulties have uncovered no evidence of persecution or harassment.

2.0.12 Information on the status of the CPA was provided to members of the Steering Committee of the International Conference on Indo-Chinese Refugees during an Information Meeting held in Ho Chi Minh City on 27 April 1993. Several delegates expressed their concern at what was considered a less than satisfactory rate of return. It was recommended that a full Steering Committee Meeting be held towards the end of 1993 for the purpose of discussing further this and other relevant matters. It is commonly acknowledged that a concerted effort by all parties concerned must be made to avoid a situation where screened-out Vietnamese in camps in the region do not apply for voluntary return due to rumours, misinformation and un-founded expectations of future changes in the international approach. Recent developments involving the competent authorities in several countries of first asylum taking a more active role in promoting an early return of persons found not to qualify for refugee status are promising. UNHCR intends to continue to streamline its assistance activities in order to create a climate in the camps more conducive to voluntary repatriation. Other promotional activities such as dissemination of country-of-origin information, counselling and preparation for return through training will continue to be adapted to the needs identified in each country of asylum.

2.0.13 During the first half of 1993, implementing procedures were agreed upon by all parties concerned for the repatriation of unaccompanied minors for whom it is considered in their best interest to return to Viet Nam. The first minors returning under these modalities left Indonesia and Hong Kong respectively in April and June. It is hoped that this Family Reunification Operation will provide the means for solving this long pending humanitarian issue.

Repatriation of Lao

2.0.14 The UNHCR Lao Voluntary Repatriation Programme has been in existence since the end of 1980. However it was not until 1989, following the adoption

of the CPA and the Tripartite Agreement between the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand and UNHCR that repatriation really became a viable durable solution. Whereas prior to 1989 the annual number of returnees had been about 430, a total of 5,384 Lao refugees repatriated voluntarily during the subsequent three-and-a-half years. In 1992, a total of 3,036 persons voluntary returned from Thailand and 1,616 from China under UNHCR auspices. Some 3,200 applicants from Thailand and 120 from China were awaiting repatriation in early 1993. The voluntary repatriation programme has two main objectives: the promotion of repatriation within the camps in Thailand and China and the reintegration of returnees into Lao society.

2.0.15 In promoting voluntary repatriation within the camps in Thailand, information campaigns in the camps were redirected and intensified with the setting up of the Mobile Public Information Unit. Counselling given in the camps is now directed towards group returns, but without losing sight of the possibilities for individual return. The use of local media, the gradual introduction of the Lao curriculum in primary school as from 1 January 1992 and the introduction of training programmes oriented towards repatriation are other key elements in the effort to promote voluntary repatriation.

2.0.16 Considerable attention has also been given to the reintegration of returnees. Since 1980, various projects aimed at improving the social and economic infrastructure for returnees and the surrounding population have been implemented in twelve provinces in the Lao People's Democratic Republic in order to create conditions favourable to sustainable reintegration.

2.0.17 The availability of new sites is pivotal to the programme, as described in greater detail under the relevant country chapter. There is a need for renewed efforts by all parties concerned to avoid the unavailability of land becoming a major obstacle to repatriation. Another major constraint affecting the repatriation programme is the existence of "special vetting procedures" in the four provinces of Sayaboury, Vientiane, Bolikhamxay and Oudomxay. These procedures involve submission of applications to the provincial authorities who then verify the information provided in each individual application. Of the approximately 3,200 pending applications in early 1993, some 1,300 were for these provinces.

2.0.18 While a significant number of Lao refugees remain in Thailand, increasing momentum is visible as each of the past two years have set a record for returns. It is expected that not less than 7,000 persons will have repatriated voluntarily to the Lao People's Democratic Republic by the end of 1993.

Funding

2.0.19 The total budgetary requirements for 1993 under the CPA were initially at $ 110.8 million, of which $ 86 million were under Special Programmes. This has been revised downwards to $ 106.9 million of which

$ 83.4 million are under Special Programmes. For 1994, initial estimated requirements total $ 86.2 million of which $ 70.0 million are under Special Programme.

Regional Developments

Cambodia

2.0.20 The voluntary repatriation of Cambodian refugees from camps in Thailand began on 30 March 1992 and was completed on 30 April 1993. During this period 363,061 persons returned from Thailand under UNHCR auspices. No major problems were encountered during the repatriation operation in spite of a gradual deterioration of security in some areas to which Cambodians wished to return. In addition, one person return from Hong Kong, 1,129 from Indonesia, 214 from Malaysia, one from Singapore and 633 from Viet Nam.

2.0.21 Three quarters of the returnees settled in the four north-western provinces. Apart from small groups settling in the areas controlled by the factions of the "Front Uni National pour un Cambodge Neutre, Pacifique et Coopératif" (FUNCINPEC), the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) and the Party of Democratic Kampuchea (PDK), the vast majority settled in areas controlled by the State of Cambodia (SOC). No major protection problems were encountered during the repatriation operation, apart from some displacement caused by factional fighting in areas which had been declared unsafe for settlement, a warning largely ignored by the returnees.

2.0.22 All returnees who had arrived before 30 March 1993 (352,000) were able to participate in the elections in May, which saw a voter turn-out of 89 per cent. A Constituent Assembly has been elected and an interim government has been formed. Only the PDK faction did not take part in the elections and, as such, refused to recognize the election results.

2.0.23 All returnees received a domestic household kit and a 400-day supply of food from WFP. Some 85 per cent of the returnees requested a cash allowance as initial reintegration assistance, rather than land and housing material. Based on an MOU signed between UNHCR and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the reintegration strategy aimed at initiating projects (QIPs) at the community level in returnee areas. As the projects will, to the extent possible, be part of a medium-term workplan established by UNDP/Office for Project Services (OPS), an automatic follow-up and continuation of the project after UNHCR's departure should be assured.

2.0.24 UNHCR will continue to monitor the well-being and the reintegration of the returnees until early 1994. However, a gradual phase-out of UNHCR activities has been initiated.

Sri Lankan Repatriation

2.0.25 A second phase of the repatriation of Sri Lankan refugees from India commenced in early 1992 under a bilateral agreement between the Governments of India and Sri Lanka. In July 1992 the Government of India and UNHCR reached an agreement on UNHCR verification of the voluntary nature of the repatriation. Some 29,000 refugees returned in the course of 1992, leaving about 80,000 in 131 camps and an estimated 30,000 outside camps in the Indian State of Tamil Nadu, according to official Government figures.

2.0.26 Between July and September 1992, UNHCR staff conducted sample checks of returnees in Madras and Rameswaram. Some 5,000 refugees were repatriated following UNHCR verification. In all, some 3,000 persons were interviewed by UNHCR staff. During visits to transit camps, UNHCR staff met refugees scheduled to repatriate and identified those to be interviewed. Verification was also done on the basis of nominal rolls provided by the Indian authorities which contained data on the composition, refugee camp and district of origin of refugee families.

2.0.27 The percentage of refugees expressing a willingness to return during interviews dropped to below two per cent. Local and international NGOs working in refugee camps and foreign consulates based in Madras reaffirmed that UNHCR's presence in Madras had resulted in effectively eliminating instances of pressure by local officials on refugees to repatriate. The refugees' fear of forced repatriation has also been eased by the dissemination of 35,000 copies of an information paper in English and Tamil on UNHCR's protection role in India and Sri Lanka.

2.0.28 The repatriation was suspended at the onset of the monsoons in October 1992 and was not resumed in early 1993 due to the inability of the Indian authorities to identify spare shipping capacity. In January 1993 UNHCR offered to finance the rental of a flat-bottomed boat for the voyage from Rameswaram to Talaimannar and an ocean-going vessel from Madras to Trincomalee to transport a further 3,000 refugees to the former destination and 4,000 to the latter. The offer was accepted in June, paving the way for a resumption of the repatriation. Meanwhile, the UNHCR repatriation team in India is pursuing its information campaign and strengthening ties with Government officials and NGOs associated with the refugee camps in Tamil Nadu.

2.0.29 While UNHCR's main concern on the Indian side has been to ensure the voluntary nature of the repatriation, in Sri Lanka it has been focused on assisting the returnees in their first steps towards reintegration. The continuing military conflict in the north and east of the country, and the delay in a political settlement have slowed down the movement of returnees from reception centres in Sri Lanka to their villages of origin. At the end of May 1993, there were still 6,000 returnees from India in reception centres.

2.0.30 UNHCR has negotiated an agreement with the Government of Sri Lanka reflecting its two-fold protection concerns: that returnees will not be unlawfully detained upon arrival from India and that they will be allowed to return to their places of origin even in "uncleared" areas. Of the 29,000 returnees, 16 were detained upon arrival and 15 of these subsequently released. Returnees wishing to settle in "uncleared" areas are required to sign a waiver of Government responsibility for their security.

2.0.31 Since June 1992 reception centres for returnees have been upgraded with improved shelters and facilities and the holding capacity of centres in the districts of Mannar, Vavuniya and Trincomalee has been increased to 13,000. Shelter material has been given to returnees to settle in their home villages. Medical services have also been provided to returnees by the Sri Lankan Red Cross. After the suspension of the repatriation in 1992, tents have been procured and reception facilities kept ready for new returnees. Their reintegration in home villages is designed in line with the policy of the Government and the practice of NGOs already working among displaced persons in the north and east. There is a common concern that returnees should not become a privileged class, and therefore certain types of assistance are also extended to internally displaced persons wherever returnees are part of a mixed population in areas cleared for settlement. They are provided with materials to construct temporary housing that makes them eligible to receive a further Government grant. Returnees to uncleared areas which are still under Liberation Tamil Tigers of Eelam (LTTE) control are also eligible for assistance in the form of building materials, accommodation at the ORC in Madhu or, in rare cases, cash grants.

2.0.32 During 1992 UNHCR assisted the Ministry of Rehabilitation, Reconstruction, and Social Welfare (MRRSW) with the transport costs for some 4,000 mt of goods, mostly food items and essential goods to be distributed in the reception centres and at the ORC at Madhu, which is under the control of the LTTE. The ORC accommodates some 30,000 displaced persons. Medical services were provided to them by Médecins sans Frontières (MSF) through an expatriate doctor, a midwife and two nurses. A mobile clinic visits the surrounding areas to provide basic primary health care and health education.

2.0.33 MRRSW, which is UNHCR's main implementing partner, was assisted to strengthen its coordination and monitoring functions.

2.0.34 The Sri Lankan repatriation operation, funded under a special appeal until June 1993, is to be extended until December 1994. The special appeal issued in June 1992 for $ 6,200,000 has been fully funded and a revised appeal will be issued to cover the needs of the repatriation programme until the end of 1994. It will cover the costs of continuing the present programme on the Indian and Sri Lankan sides and in addition will cover some transport costs from India to Sri Lanka and further reintegration costs in Sri Lanka. It is difficult to predict how many of the Sri Lankan refugees in India, numbering well over 100,000, will actually return, but the repatriation trend

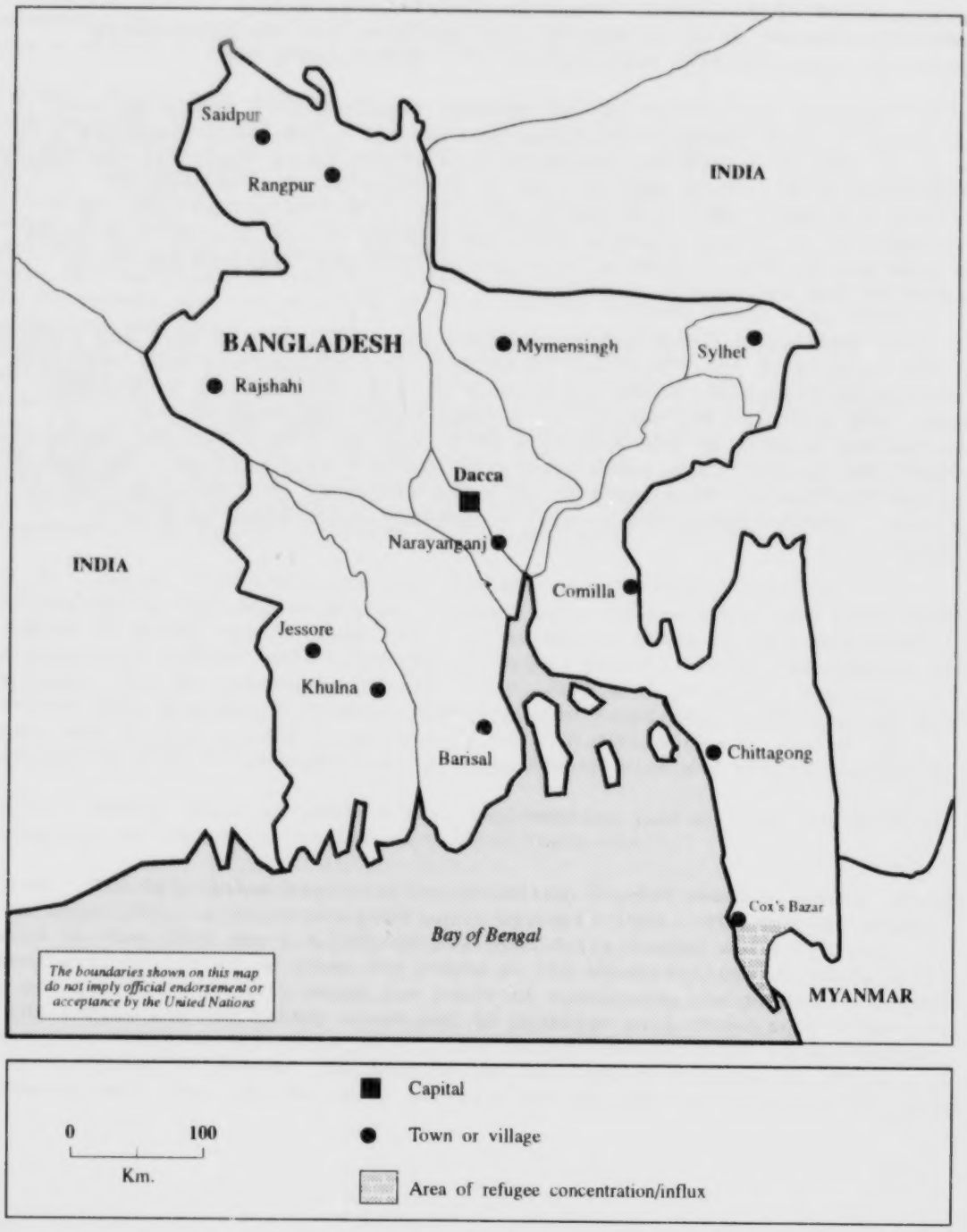
ll not be reversed. Besides continuing the activities of the current year India and Sri Lanka, it is planned further to facilitate the reintegration returnees by implementing micro-projects in the sectors of water supply, alth, community services, roads, education, and agriculture, in areas with predominance of returnees. These projects will be mainly mmunity-oriented so as to benefit both returnees and the surrounding pulation, thus avoiding the creation of a privileged group.

0.35 Within the context of the Informal Consultations, UNHCR has been proached by some European countries hosting Sri Lankan asylum-seekers with view to playing a passive monitoring role in Sri Lanka vis-à-vis the return rejected cases. This implies that if any such cases face personal curity problems, UNHCR will seek clarification and intervene with the vernment of Sri Lanka together with the embassy of the country from which e case was returned. Such an arrangement, however, requires the prior nsent of the Governments concerned.

.0.36 UNHCR expenditure and allocations for assistance in Asia and Oceania 1992 totalled $ 174.5 million, of which $ 49.6 million was made available rom General Programmes funds and $ 124.9 million from Special Programmes unds. The initial 1993 General Programmes target approved by the orty-second session of the Executive Committee was $ 63.3 million, while the evised 1993 General Programmes appropriation is $ 61.2 million. The amount equired for Special Programmes in 1993 was estimated at $ 117.0 million at id-year. The proposed 1994 General Programmes requirement is $ 49.9 illion.

BANGLADESH

Area	142,776 sq. km.
Estimated population	119,290,000 (1992)
Population density	835.5 per sq. km. (approx.)
Rainy season	July - August



2.1 BANGLADESH

Country Overview

Characteristics of the refugee population

2.1.1 At the end of 1992 there were 244,806 Myanmar refugees in 20 camps in the districts of Cox's Bazar and Bandarbhan of Chittagong Division. A census completed in September 1992 showed the population consisted of 49 per cent males and 51 per cent females, while 16 per cent were children under five years of age. At the end of May 1993, the population decreased to 224,942 persons, mainly due to repatriation. The refugees are predominantly Muslims from Arakan State in Myanmar. The majority are of rural background and worked as farmers. They tend to set a high value on traditional Koranic teaching rather than on secular learning and most of them are illiterate in Burmese.

2.1.2 Besides the refugees from Myanmar, UNHCR assists a group of 188 urban refugees of various nationalities in Dhaka. The predominant group consists of 155 Somalis and includes families awaiting resettlement or repatriation.

Major developments (1992 and first quarter of 1993)

2.1.3 Since the High Commissioner received the Government's request to assist the Myanmar refugees in February 1992, there has been a two-fold concern: to provide adequate emergency relief and to plan for an early voluntary repatriation of all the refugees. In April 1992, the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs visited Bangladesh and Myanmar, and on 28 April 1992 both Governments signed an agreement on the voluntary repatriation of the refugees. The refugee influx into Bangladesh continued until mid-1992 and the refugees in the camps demonstrated against repatriation. Pending large-scale voluntary repatriation movements, UNHCR is assisting all those who wish to return on an individual basis.

2.1.4 Between 22 September 1992 and 15 January 1993, 17,129 persons were returned to Myanmar by the Bangladesh authorities in 21 movements. UNHCR was initially only allowed access to monitor three such movements from 12 October to 25 November 1992 involving a total of 1,338 persons, and received reports of coercion. Following a letter from the High Commissionner to the Bangladesh Prime Minister of 15 December 1992, UNHCR became involved in monitoring repatriation movements beginning on 31 January 1993. From that date through 14 March 1993, UNHCR observed the repatriation of 5,219 Myanmar.

2.1.5 Following detailed negotiations between the Government of Bangladesh and UNHCR, the High Commissioner and the Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh

signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in May 1993, which consolidates the cooperation between Bangladesh and UNHCR, spells out the modalities for voluntary repatriation and guarantees UNHCR presence in all the camps.

Programme objectives and priorities

2.1.6 High priority is given to assisting the Government and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in their efforts to maintain the level of care and maintenance that has been achieved in refugee camps. UNHCR and the Government are concerned over the level of discontent and even hostility of the local population living in the vicinity of the camps towards the presence of the refugees, and are committed to assist these local communities, which in many respects are worse off than the refugees to whom they have extended their hospitality. The assistance is designed to improve the supply of water; rehabilitate health and educational facilities; repair and upgrade roads and bridges; improve sanitary conditions in markets and community centres; and strengthen facilities for agriculture and animal husbandry. The deterioration of the environment is also a matter of concern which UNHCR will attempt to redress through its good offices. Alternative sources of fuel for refugees, such as compressed rice husks, will be used to reduce the felling of trees. Simultaneously new nurseries will be developed so that additional land may be brought under forest cover.

2.1.7 The recently signed MOU ensures close cooperation between UNHCR and the Government to achieve voluntary repatriation in safety and dignity. Besides its objectives vis-à-vis the Myanmar refugees in the camps, UNHCR will promote and pursue solutions for the urban caseload in Dhaka, while continuing to assist them through a local NGO. UNHCR has also offered to assist the Government in the return of Chakma refugees from India and the repatriation of the Biharis, who have been awaiting movement to Pakistan since 1971.

Arrangements for implementation/related inputs

2.1.8 The Ministry of Relief is the focal point for assistance to Myanmar refugees, and is UNHCR's principal implementing partner. Tripartite agreements between the Ministry, UNHCR and NGOs govern the implementation of certain sectors of assistance, notably health and nutrition. UNHCR's partners in the assistance programme are CARE, Church of Bangladesh, CONCERN, Gonoshasthaya Kendra, Helen Keller Foundation, Médecins Sans Frontières of France and Holland, Save the Children Fund (UK), Terre des Hommes and World Concern. These NGOs assist the Ministry of Health to provide preventive and curative health services in camps allotted to their care. Related services such as environmental hygiene, supplementary nutrition and latrine construction are also covered by NGOs in specific camps. The World Food Programme (WFP), at the request of the Government and UNHCR, provides the main components of the food basket which are distributed by the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) in collaboration with the International

Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). A senior official of the Relief Ministry is based in Cox's Bazar as Relief Commissioner to coordinate the assistance programme, working closely with the line Ministries concerned, UNHCR's Sub-Office and NGOs in the field. This decentralization has made for speedy decision-making and implementation.

General Programmes

Care and Maintenance

a) 1992 programme implementation

2.1.9 The assistance programme for Myanmar refugees was administered under Special Programmes in 1992 and is reported upon below. Assistance to urban refugees in 1992 benefited 80 families (120 persons). Besides receiving a monthly subsistence allowance, the refugees also received an education grant for children in primary schools, and had medical coverage. A local NGO, Dhaka Ahsania Mission, was identified to implement the assistance programme in a manner commensurate with local standards.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.1.10 In 1993 assistance to Myanmar refugees is funded under General Programmes. The emphasis is on maintaining satisfactory health indicators by ensuring an adequate food basket, good environmental hygiene and access to safe drinking water. Blended food is being produced locally as a supplementary nutrient for children and vulnerable women. Special attention has been given to building more shelters and rebuilding those destroyed in storms, as some 25,000 persons were still without adequate shelter in early 1993. An allocation has been made in the budget for education and community services in the camps as soon as these are feasible. Assistance also continues for the urban caseload in Dhaka.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.1.11 The allocation for care and maintenance assistance to Myanmar refugees in 1994 will decrease for two reasons: the number of beneficiaries is expected to decrease as repatriation gathers momentum in the course of 1993, and the substantial contribution of UNHCR for vegetables as part of the general food basket will be replaced largely by blended food to be supplied by WFP. A budgetary allocation for maintaining a clean and healthy environment will be maintained, domestic items that need replacement such as blankets and clothing will continue to be provided, and the budgetary allocations for social services - health, education and community services - will remain. Emphasis will be given to implementing a Health Plan of Action that calls for decentralization of health services, improvement of access by

vulnerable refugees, a preventive approach and better health follow-up. UNHCR will also seek to improve educational services for children and to address the special needs of women through community services. A Social Services Officer is being appointed to pursue these objectives for which the ground has been prepared by the signature of an MOU between UNHCR and the Government.

2.1.12 The sectoral breakdown for the initial and revised 1993 and the initial 1994 care and maintenance allocations is as follows (in US dollars):

Sector	Initial 1993	Revised 1993	Initial 1994
Food	650,000	1,190,110	177,980
Transport/logistics	3,009,610	558,090	367,226
Domestic needs	1,075,440	3,144,030	3,357,697
Water	1,000,000	812,930	367,620
Sanitation	1,500,000	1,480,940	1,534,390
Health/nutrition	2,503,350	2,911,410	2,703,985
Shelter	4,000,000	3,173,820	2,871,410
Community services	1,200,000	69,320	146,115
Education	1,003,040	206,330	204,862
Forestry	120,000	-	-
Income-generation	150,000	-	-
Legal assistance	1,001,020	118,810	101,485
Agency op. support	1,007,540	1,909,910	1,811,530
Project personnel	1,374,500	2,733,400	2,549,700
Total	$ 19,594,500	$ 18,309,100	$ 16,194,000

Voluntary Repatriation

a) 1993 programme implementation

2.1.13 The repatriation of refugees to Myanmar began in September 1992 before the modalities of UNHCR's involvement were clearly determined. These have now been outlined in an MOU signed in Dhaka in May 1993, paving the way for a repatriation project that covers the costs of transport by boat and repatriation kits for some 30,000 refugees who may voluntarily return in the course of 1993. The project also covers the costs of an information campaign on repatriation in the refugee camps, and improvement of the embarcation facilities in Cox's Bazar. The total project budget is $ 1.1 million, and an amount of $ 400,000 has thus far been allocated from the General Allocation for Voluntary Repatriation.

b) 1994 programme proposals

2.1.14 A total of $ 700,000 has been proposed for transport costs and repatriation kits in 1994 for a further 30,000 returnees.

Resettlement

1992 programme implementation

2.1.15 Nine cases were assisted during 1992 to resettle from Bangladesh to Canada and the United Kingdom.

Special Programmes

Emergency assistance to Myanmar refugees in Bangladesh

2.1.16 The Myanmar refugees were assisted in 1992 under Special Programmes, for which an appeal was launched in March 1992 in the amount of $ 27.4 million. Significant economies were made in the implementation of the programme, mainly in the sector of site- planning and shelter due to a radically changed design dictated by the scarcity of land, and in the distribution of food and non-food items which was undertaken with funds from the IFRC.

2.1.17 The refugees were accommodated in 20 camps, 19 of which were in Cox's Bazar and one in Bandarban district. Due to limitations of space the shelters, constructed by the Ministry of Relief through private contractors, were long-houses rather than individual family dwellings as earlier envisaged. The high rate of arrivals in the first half of the year and the scarcity of suitable camp sites meant that a certain number of refugees remained in makeshift huts. As late as September 1992, some 50,000 refugees were still without adequate shelter and emphasis was laid on a building programme to meet this need. The Deparment of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), with the help of NGOs, managed by the end of 1992 to attain the target of one latrine for every 20 refugees, and one shallow tube-well for every 250.

2.1.18 A group of nutritionists met in June 1992 to determine the general basic ration and the supplementary ration for children under five years of age, lactating and pregnant women and other vulnerable refugees. The food contribution from WFP in 1992 was supplemented with vegetables, condiments, high-protein biscuits, and blended food from UNHCR sources. Thanks to measures taken to improve sanitation and nutrition, the health data-collection system instituted by the Government with the help of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recorded a significant reduction of the overall mortality rate from 1.6 in May 1992 to 0.26 in December 1992. For

children under five, the mortality rate fell from 3.0 to 0.41 over the same period. Nutrition levels simultaneously rose and by the end of 1992 there was only a negligible attendance at therapeutic feeding centres. UNHCR was not in a position to make any significant contribution in the sectors of education and community services because of limited access to the refugees in the camps and existing Bangladesh Government policies.

Education Account

2.1.19 A total of ten university students were enrolled during the 1992-1993 academic year and it is expected that ten will receive scholarships in 1993-1994.

Other Trust Funds

2.1.20 In the course of 1993, a special programme is being implemented to address the needs of local communities affected by the refugee presence. The needs were assessed by local consultants who have recommended that a portfolio of micro-projects be implemented in close association with local government bodies by the Ministry of Relief, in liaison with UNHCR. These micro-projects in the sectors of water supply, health, education, sanitation, agriculture and community services would total some $ 3 million.

Project Personnel Expenditure (PPE)/Programme Support and Administration (PSA)

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) major developments

2.1.21 The administrative support budget in Bangladesh had to be increased during the course of 1992 in response to the demands of the emergency assistance programmme for Rohingya refugees from Myanmar. The Branch Office moved to larger premises, a Sub-Office was opened in Cox's Bazaar, and posts were created to assure the UNHCR staffing component needed for the operation. By the end of 1992 the staffing level in Dhaka had reached 22 posts, while in Cox's Bazaar 52 posts had been created during the year. In addition, significant administrative expenditure was required to implement the emergency programme, and included purchases of non-expendable property such as vehicles, radios, generators, office equipment and furniture. The overall administrative commitments and expenditures entered into in 1992 under the emergency programme budget amounted to some $ 2.76 million for Bangladesh.

b) 1993 - Revised estimates

2.1.22 The 1993 revised administrative budgets for Bangladesh are funded through the General Programmes. While the refugee influx has abated, and some repatriation has begun to occur, the revised administrative requirements for 1993 are similar to the 1992 expenditure level of $ 2.7 million. Staff costs, which initially had only been budgeted for six months of 1993 due to

the emergency nature of the operation, are now budgeted for the entire year. However, estimates for travel and the purchase of non-expendable property are significantly lower as many of the important purchases were made in 1992. The creation of posts has also resulted in a reduction in consultancy fees in 1993 of $ 230,000 and a reduction of long missions of international staff to Bangladesh required during the 1992 emergency phase.

c) 1994 - Initial estimates

2.1.23 The main component of the initial 1994 administrative budget for Bangladesh is staff-related costs. All 22 posts in the Dhaka Branch Office and 52 posts in the Cox's Bazaar Sub-Office have been extended until 31 December 1994. Salaries and common staff costs are projected to amount to some $ 2.2 million, while the non-staff costs are initially budgeted at about $ 375,000, mainly for travel, general operating expenses and a small amount of non-expendable property.

UNHCR EXPENDITURE IN BANGLADESH

(in thousands of United States dollars)

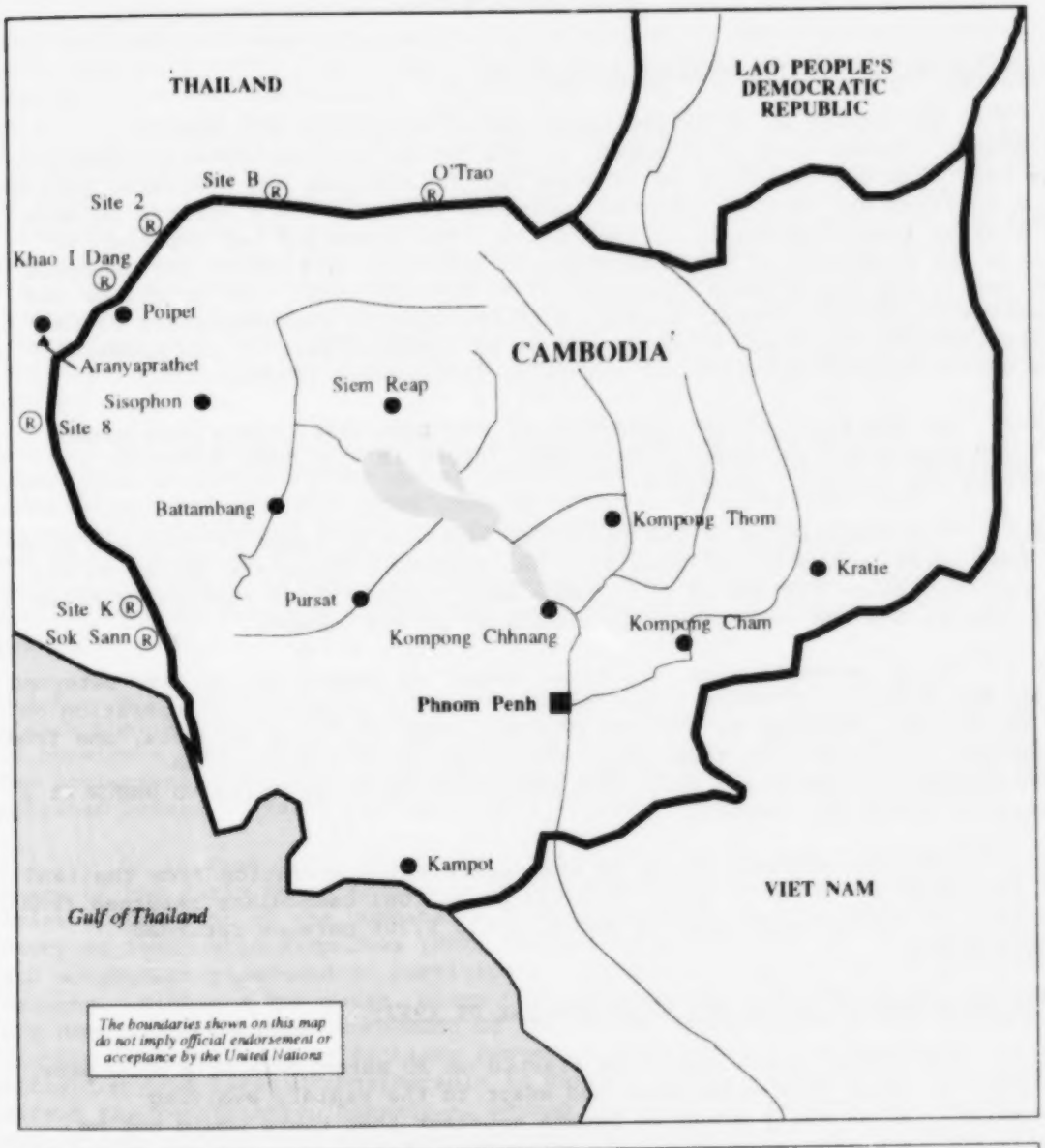
1992	1993		1994	
AMOUNT OBLIGATED	ALLOCATION APPROVED BY 1992 EXCOM	PROPOSED REVISED ALLOCATION	SOURCE OF FUNDS AND TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	PROPOSED ALLOCATION/ PROJECTION
GENERAL PROGRAMMES (1)				
115.8	19,594.5	18,309.1	CARE AND MAINTENANCE Multi-sectoral assistance to refugees from Myanmar	16,194.0
–	–	400.0 b/	VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION	712.4
5.9 a/	–	–	RESETTLEMENT	–
121.7	19,594.5	18,709.1	Sub-total (1)	16,906.4
SPECIAL PROGRAMMES (2)				
25.6	25.6	25.6	EDUCATION ACCOUNT 10 university scholarships	25.6
			OTHER TRUST FUNDS	
18,376.4	–	–	Assistance to Myanmar refugees	–
272.2	–	–	Food	–
–	–	1,000.0	Assistance to Bangladeshi villages	–
			PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN.	
56.4	–	38.6	Junior Professional Officer	38.6
18,730.6	25.6	1,064.2	Sub-total (2)	64.2
18,852.3	**19,620.1**	**19,773.3**	**GRAND TOTAL (1+2)**	**16,970.6**

a/ Obligation incurred against Overall Allocation

b/ Allocated from the General Allocation for Voluntary Repatriation

CAMBODIA

Area	181,035 sq. km.
Estimated population	9,050,000 (1992)
Population density	50.0 per sq. km. (approx.)
Rainy season	May - October



CAMBODIA

Country Overview

Characteristics of the returnee population

2.2.1 The Cambodian Voluntary Repatriation Operation is a Special Programme, funded through an appeal by the United Nations Secretary-General, for the voluntary repatriation of some 360,000 refugees and displaced persons from Thailand and several thousand Cambodian refugees and displaced persons from other countries mainly in the region. The operation was implemented within the framework of the comprehensive political settlement for Cambodia set out in the Paris Peace Agreement of 23 October 1991. The programme was conducted under the overall authority of the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General, and as an integral part of the mandate of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

2.2.2 At the start of the operation on 30 March 1992, there were around 367,000 Cambodians in camps in Thailand, 12,000 in Viet Nam, 8,000 in Malaysia and 1,678 in Indonesia.

2.2.3 The composition of the Cambodian caseload in camps in Thailand prior to the operation was as follows: 92.6 per cent were below the age of 44 and 47 per cent below the age of 15. There were roughly equal numbers of males and females and the average family consisted of 4.4 persons.

2.2.4 At 31 December 1992, the total number of Cambodians who had returned under the auspices of UNHCR since the start of the repatriation operation on 30 March 1992, amounted to 229,870 from Thailand, 196 from Malaysia, one from Singapore and 1,191 from Indonesia. Moreover, 5,110 had returned spontaneously and received only food assistance when reporting to UNHCR at a reception centre in Cambodia.

2.2.5 The main movement phase of the repatriation operation from Thailand was completed by 30 April 1993. A total of 363,061 Cambodians returned from Thailand on convoys organized by UNHCR, while 5,306 persons returned spontaneously.

Major developments (1992 and first quarter of 1993)

2.2.6 The repatriation operation started on 30 March 1992 at a slow pace, in order to learn from experience and adapt to the rapidly evolving situation. At an early stage it became apparent that there would not be sufficient land available to allow systematic distribution to all returnee families, due to the presence of mines and to the gradually deteriorating security situation. The latter hampered the launch of the large-scale de-

mining programmes that would have been required in order to make sufficient land available.

2.2.7 A number of alternatives were introduced, with the option of a 2 ha. plot of agricultural land remaining as Option A, provision of a small plot of land with housing materials (Option B), provision of cash (Option C) and employment with UNTAC (Option E). Option D, involving the provision of a tool kit, was not implemented. Fairly soon after its introduction, the cash option (C) became the preferred option, mainly because it facilitated greatly the search for relatives. This increased the workload of UNHCR, as secondary and sometimes tertiary movements between different reception centres had to be organized. In most cases relatives were traced. Settlement close to relatives enhanced the reintegration prospects of the returnees. At the same time UNHCR continued its search for land as it was clear that at a later stage the returnees would need land in order to consolidate their reintegration. A land database was established and it was agreed with the authorities that land, when available, could be provided to all returnees and temporary land title would be issued even if they had returned under the cash option.

2.2.8 The deteriorating security situation and the slow pace of implementation of de-mining operations obliged UNHCR to declare a number of areas as not suitable for return (No Go Areas). The returnees were counselled in Thailand and in the reception centres on the security situation but many decided to proceed on their own to the more dangerous areas, which sometimes resulted in temporary displacement due to shelling. Despite the insecurity, the refugees in Thailand were determined to return as soon as possible.

2.2.9 Arrangements were made with the electoral component of UNTAC to ensure that all those who passed through the reception centres would be able to receive a voter registration card. In order to accomodate the returnees, the registration period for the elections was extended and all returnees who returned before 30 March 1993 were able to participate in the elections.

2.2.10 On 13 June 1992, UNTAC began officially to implement the second phase of the Paris Peace Accords with the demobilization and cantonment of at least 70 per cent of the combatants from all parties to the conflict. The Party of Democratic Kampuchea (PDK) refused to participate in this exercise, and subsequently refused to participate in the electoral process for the same reasons. Within a few weeks, given the non-compliance of one of the parties, the demobilization and cantonment of the forces came to a halt and sporadic fighting between various factions resumed. As a result, the security situation deteriorated considerably in certain areas. This did not seriously affect the repatriation operation, beyond contributing to some slight delays. Only those refugees and displaced persons who returned during the month of April 1993 were unable to participate in the electoral process. Some 12,000 persons were affected, although the majority of them had in fact refused to

participate in an earlier voter pre-registration exercise conducted in Thailand.

2.2.11 At the Ministerial Conference on Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Cambodia, (Tokyo 21 to 23 June 1992) potential contributions to the national reconstruction effort totalling $ 880 million were announced by donors.

2.2.12 Elections took place between 23 and 28 May 1993. Eighty-nine per cent of the registered voters participated in the elections, including many supporters of the PDK faction, whose leaders had advocated a boycott of the vote. The new Constituent Assembly is composed of 58 seats for "Front Uni National pour un Cambodge Neutre, Pacifique et Coopératif" (FUNCINPEC), 51 for the Cambodian People's Party (CPP), 10 for the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party (BDLP) and one for "Mouvement de Libération National du Kampuchéa" (MOULINAKA). A new interim government under the Presidency of Prince Norodom Sihanouk has been formed. All factions, with the exception of the PDK have accepted the election results.

Programme objectives and priorities

2.2.13 Given the successful implementation of the Paris Peace Accords and the timely completion of the repatriation operation, it is expected that the assistance programmes for Cambodian returnees will be completed by the end of 1993. Emphasis is being laid on the consolidation of the process of reintegration of the returnees and the continuation by UNDP and other United Nations development agencies of the community infrastructure activities started by UNHCR in the communities in which returnees have settled.

2.2.14 UNHCR integration assistance is directed not just to the returnees but towards communities receiving them. UNHCR will retain monitoring and protection staff based in Phnom Penh and Battambang to cover all returnee areas throughout the period of direct food assistance to returnees.

Arrangements for implementation

Inter-agency arrangements

2.2.15 The operation has been characterized by a remarkable degree of cooperation among United Nations partners in their respective areas of expertise. The UNHCR Special Envoy has also held the complementary function of UNTAC Director for Repatriation, thus ensuring the fullest level of support and protection for the operation from the UNTAC peace-keeping and civilian police components. By operation of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between UNHCR and UNDP, the UNDP Office for Project Services (OPS) has established Provincial Support Units in the four Western Provinces and is opening two offices in the Eastern and Southern Provinces, each with sectoral specialists coordinating the planning of other United Nations and

bilateral agencies, NGOs and provincial and district authorities in a comprehensive, medium-term Rural Reintegration Strategy. All components of the UNHCR and UNDP reintegration programmes are jointly reviewed and guided by a well-established Joint Technical Management Unit. The World Food Programme (WFP) has succeeded in anticipating the pace of the returnee flow, delivering food without delay or interruption throughout the repatriation operation. Following an amendment to the WFP/UNHCR MOU, WFP will be in charge, until June 1994, of the distribution of a 400-day food supply at the distribution point level. UNICEF has dedicated a significant part of its well drilling capacity to the provision of safe water to communities receiving returnees. ILO and UNESCO also assisted in the implementation of UNHCR Quick Impact Projects (QIPs). Through an MOU, UNHCR and WHO coordinated closely all health-policy aspects of the movement and the reintegration phase.

2.2.16 A joint UNHCR/UNDP/WFP appeal, covering the needs of all three agencies during the reintegration phase was launched by the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General at a UNDP-hosted donors' meeting held in Phnom Penh on 25 February 1993. After mid 1993, UNDP assumed increased responsibility for the reintegration programme jointly begun with UNHCR.

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)

2.2.17 During the logistics phase of the repatriation operation, the Cambodian Red Cross (CRC) was the main implementing partner in the areas under the control of the State of Cambodia (SOC) faction and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in the remaining areas under the control of the other factions. CARE International was instrumental in taking the refugees and their belongings, as well as food, from the reception centres to the distribution points nearest to the final destination of the returnees. Christian Outreach and Concern, the agencies which constructed the reception centres, maintained the facilities until they were handed over to local authorities after the completion of the movement phase (April 1993). A total of 47 NGOs, local authorities and women's associations implemented QIPs with UNHCR funding in all areas of returnee settlement.

Special Programmes

Voluntary Repatriation

2.2.18 As explained above, the Cambodia Voluntary Repatriation Operation has been funded and implemented under Special Programmes.

a) 1992-1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.2.19 Following the construction of staging areas in Thailand and Reception Centres in Cambodia in the first quarter of 1992, the movement phase of the operation began on 30 March 1992, and had been virtually completed by the end of the first quarter 1993. All camps for Cambodians in Thailand had been closed officially by 30 March 1993.

2.2.20 During the movement phase of the repatriation operation, 363,061 persons returned from Thailand under the auspices of UNHCR, 1,129 from Indonesia, 214 from Malaysia, 633 from Vietnam, one from Singapore and one from Hong Kong.

2.2.21 Most of the returnees chose to return to the areas under the control of the SOC. Some 30,000 returned to the area controlled by the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), some 3,000 to the area controlled by FUNCINPEC and 2,500 to an area controlled by the PDK. More than 75 per cent of the returnees settled in the four North-western Provinces.

2.2.22 All of the 363,061 Cambodians who returned from Thailand under the auspices of UNHCR as well as the 801 persons who were returned by the Royal Thai Government received a domestic household kit, plastic sheeting, a water jar and a 400-day supply of food from WFP. Housing material was provided to 34,408 persons, while 322,919 persons received cash assistance. A further group of 5,683 persons received only food assistance, as they decided to return by their own means. UNTAC provided employment to 937 returnees.

2.2.23 Those returning from countries other than Thailand received cash, a kit of domestic items and food assistance.

2.2.24 The programme of QIP reintegration projects was launched in June 1992, with some 50 small-to-medium scale projects completed or in the course of implementation by the end of June 1993. The programme was fully coordinated with UNDP, and in February 1993 a joint UNHCR/UNDP/WFP appeal was issued in Phnom Penh with the aim of ensuring that both UNDP and WFP would have the necessary resources to take over responsibility for operational activities from UNHCR in the fields of reintegration and food-distribution, respectively.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.2.25 In April 1993 the remaining population of Site 2 (18,000 persons) returned home. Agreements with implementing partners for the movement and logistics phase were terminated upon completion of the movement. The reception centre in Phnom Penh remained open to accommodate small movements of people from the region. Other centres were closed, and the wooden buildings dismantled and handed over to local schools and hospitals, where they were reassembled.

2.2.26 Based on the MOU signed with UNDP at the beginning of the repatriation operation, UNHCR has developed very close working relations with UNDP, which will assume responsibility for the medium- to long-term reintegration of the returnees in June 1993. UNHCR initiated a comprehensive programme of QIPs to provide essential inputs for the improvement of community infrastructure and services and to enhance the employment and production potential of communities or groups in areas where returnees have settled. All such micro-projects were jointly developed with UNDP/OPS through a specially formed unit, the Cambodia Resettlement and Reintegration Unit (CARERE) to ensure that they would be part of a regional development plan and, as such, receive the necessary follow-up. UNDP has received full funding for implementation of its workplan in the North-western provinces until the end of 1993. To date, UNHCR has committed the $ 9.5 million allocated for QIPS in some 50 projects. These include projects to repair or reconstruct a total of 238 km of tertiary roads and 22 bridges, 376 schools, 1,377 water-points, 64 health centres, as well as agricultural assistance in the form of preparation of 14,000 ha. of land and the provision of vegetable seeds for some 60,000 families.

2.2.27 Following the joint appeal, WFP assumed responsibility for the continuing supply and distribution of all food commodities to returnees as of 1 April 1993. UNHCR completed its funding of QIPs in July 1993 and UNDP continued funding the same joint reintegration programmes. The UNDP reintegration programme has a five-year duration, and communities in which returnees have settled will continue to benefit from reintegration and development assistance for this period. During the period of gradual phase-out of UNHCR's operational involvement, many of the assets acquired by UNHCR for the repatriation operation will be handed over to CARERE and other agencies involved in the returnee reintegration process.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.2.28 UNHCR is committed to maintaining a protection and monitoring presence in Cambodia through the end of the first quarter of 1994. Staffing levels will steadily decrease throughout 1993, and programme-related functions will be discontinued as from the end of 1993. There will thus be no operational programme activities in 1994, barring the emergence of new needs.

Project Personnel Expenditure (PPE)/Programme Support and Administration (PSA)

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) major developments

2.2.29 The number of UNHCR staff was highest during the movement phase of the repatriation operation. UNHCR deployed both international Professional and General Service, and local General Service staff members in the Office of

the Chargé de Mission in Phnom Penh, in the Sub-Office in Battambang, and in Field Offices in Pursat, Sisophon, and Siem Reap to facilitate the repatriation and reintegration of the returnees. In addition, UNHCR hired consultants with sectoral specialties, both locally and internationally, to provide specific technical expertise and meet short-term requirements.

2.2.30 In order to facilitate operationality for UNHCR staff, a variety of vehicles, computer and office equipment and other non-expendable property was purchased. In addition, a telecommunications network was established to improve communications and enchance the security of staff.

2.2.31 PPE under Special Programmes in 1992 was lower than anticipated. Considerable savings were achieved by deploying some staff members only at the beginning of the movement phase of the operation, rather than from the start of the year. This also resulted in additional savings, travel, operating expenses and non-expendable property.

b) 1993 revised estimates

2.2.32 With the completion of the movement phase, UNHCR has gradually begun to reduce the number of its international staff, placing emphasis on monitoring activities to be undertaken largely by local staff. Staff of other United Nations agencies and NGOs involved in the reintegration of the returnees also assist in monitoring activities. By the end of 1993 UNHCR will have greatly diminished its staffing level.

2.2.33 The revised budget for PPE in 1993 is significantly lower than the 1992 revised budget as a result of the above-mentioned discontinuation of international posts and the closure in the first half of 1993 of the Field Offices in Pursat, Sisophon, and Siem Reap.

c) 1994 initial estimates

2.2.34 The 1994 initial budget for PPE is greatly reduced compared to the 1993 revised budget due to significant reductions in UNHCR staff. Remaining international and local staff members will be based in Phnom Penh with a view to the possible closure of the UNHCR office by March 1994. UNHCR's presence in Cambodia will be reviewed regularly, however, during 1993 and early 1994 in order to determine the extent and duration of a continued UNHCR presence in the country.

UNHCR EXPENDITURE IN CAMBODIA

(in thousands of United States dollars)

1992	1993		1994	
AMOUNT OBLIGATED	ALLOCATION APPROVED BY 1992 EXCOM	PROPOSED REVISED ALLOCATION	SOURCE OF FUNDS AND TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	PROPOSED ALLOCATION/ PROJECTION
GENERAL PROGRAMMES (1)				
0.2 a/	–	–	LOCAL SETTLEMENT	–
0.2	0.0	0.0	Sub–total (1)	0.0
SPECIAL PROGRAMMES (2)				
185.1	–	–	OTHER TRUST FUNDS	–
148.9	31.0	–	PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN.	–
33.8	56.0	82.0	Junior Professional Officer	82.0
36,905.5	11,969.0	24,662.1	CAMBODIA REPATRIATION OPERATION	445.7
37,273.3	12,056.0	24,744.1	Sub–total (2)	527.7
37,273.5	**12,056.0**	**24,744.1**	**GRAND TOTAL (1+2)**	**527.7**

a/ Obligation incurred against Overall Allocation

2.3 CHINA

Country Overview

Characteristics of the refugee population

2.3.1 As of 31 December 1992, the People's Republic of China hosted a refugee population of 288,123 persons, comprised of 285,543 Vietnamese, 2,548 Lao and 32 Cambodians. Approximately 91 per cent of the Indo-Chinese caseload is ethnic Chinese, eight per cent Vietnamese and one per cent Lao. The Vietnamese were settled on 194 state farms and production sites in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Guangdong Province, Yunnan Province, Fujian Province, Hainan Province and Jiangxi Province. Most of the Lao and Cambodians are residing in Yunnan province.

2.3.2 As of the end of 1992, there were 18 non-Indo-Chinese refugees from Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Liberia, Palestine and Sri Lanka. They received assistance for an average of three months pending a durable solution. The durable solution sought for this group is primarily third country resettlement and, in some cases, voluntary repatriation.

Major developments (1992 and first quarter 1993)

2.3.3 In compliance with the bilateral agreement signed in April 1991 between the People's Republic of China and the Lao People's Democratic Republic governing the repatriation of Lao refugees in China, some 1,621 refugees repatriated voluntary to the Lao People's Democratic Republic in 1992.

2.3.4 A joint Ministry of Civil Affairs/UNHCR team undertook a programme assessment mission from 8 to 26 March 1993 to review UNHCR activities and to assess achievements and shortcomings in meeting the overall programme objectives of the local settlement programme for Indo-Chinese refugees.

Programme objectives and priorities

2.3.5 The main objective of UNHCR assistance to Indo-Chinese refugees will continue to be the local settlement of refugees and the promotion of refugee self-sufficiency. Programmes will generally be geared towards reducing the per capita income gap between refugees and the local population, decreasing dependency on Government subsidies and lowering the number of unemployed refugees.

2.3.6 For the non-Indo-Chinese, the promotion of temporary asylum and of third country resettlement will be pursued. Adequate care and maintenance will be provided, pending durable solutions.

Arrangements for implementation/related inputs

2.3.7 The Office of the Ministry of Civil Affairs for the Reception and Settlement of Indo-Chinese refugees continues to be UNHCR's implementation partner for the local settlement and voluntary repatriation of Indo-Chinese refugees. This Office maintains branches in each of the provinces with refugee populations, is responsible for overall project implementation and supervises implementation by state farms or local communities.

2.3.8 The Chinese Government has contributed most of the funding required for infrastructural development, housing, recurrent costs and living subsidies for the refugees. As of end 1992, the Chinese Government estimated that it had spent over $ 730 million for Indo-Chinese refugees since their arrival in China in the late seventies.

General Programmes

Care and Maintenance

a) 1992-1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.3.9 Care and maintenance was provided to all individual asylum-seekers and refugees. Assistance covered costs for transport to hospitals or clinics for medical treatment, medical expenses, visa fees, as well as accommodation and subsistence allowances.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.3.10 A revised amount of $ 65,000 has been budgeted for 1993. This significant reduction from the initial 1993 appropriation is a result in a reduction in the number of beneficiaries. The revised budget will, in addition to ongoing care and maintenance, cover the costs of a consultant for the promotion of refugee law and protection, protection-related missions and a protection workshop for Government officials.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.3.11 An appropriation of $ 48,000 has been proposed for 1994 for care and maintenance assistance to some 40 individuals. The 1994 budget will also cover the costs of translation of the UNHCR Handbook on Procedures and Criteria for Determination of Refugee Status and other protection-related materials and local printing costs. A workshop on the promotion of national refugee legislation and procedures for refugee status determination is also planned during 1994.

Local Settlement

a) 1992-1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.3.12 The main focus of assistance was income-generation through the creation of employment opportunities by constructing or expanding workshops, factories, restaurants, tailoring shops, plantations and multi-purpose processing factories.

2.3.13 Despite significant progress in improving the refugees' standard of living, it is apparent that not all refugee settlements on individual farms are achieving the same rate of progress. While some of the refugees are doing well, a substantial number have not achieved self-sufficiency.

2.3.14 This situation is mainly due to the fact that many of the state farms on which refugees live are located in areas with poor soil and little prospects for rapid economic improvement. The large size of the Vietnamese refugee families is another factor for their low per capita income compared to local Chinese families in the same areas.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.3.15 An amount of $ 2,286,000 has been budgeted for 1993. The appropriation will cover preparatory measures aimed at reorienting the programme so as to facilitate the establishment of an income-generating credit scheme. Activities such as a survey of refugee settlements and production units, studies of the feasibility of the proposed creation of a revolving fund credit scheme, and the establishment of a computer database are envisaged, in addition to a variety of local initiatives aimed at income-generation.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.3.16 The 1994 programme will continue to focus on the launching of the credit scheme in 1994. An initial allocation of $ 1,700,000 has been foreseen for this purpose. As in 1993, the programme will concentrate on segments of refugee settlements which have remained well below the poverty line and have not achieved self-reliance.

Emergency Fund

a) 1992-1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.3.17 An amount of $ 150,000 was made available under the Emergency Fund to provide assistance to refugee settlements hit by typhoons in Guangdong and Hainan Provinces.

Special Programmes

Comprehensive Plan of Action for Indo-Chinese Refugees (CPA)

a) 1992-1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.3.18 A total of 2,060 Lao refugees had repatriated voluntarily by the end of 1992, within the framework of the CPA. During the first five months of 1993, some 1,546 refugees repatriated to the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.3.19 It is expected that the voluntary repatriation of Lao refugees will be completed by the end of 1993.

Project Personnel Expenditure (PPE)/Programme Support and Administration (PSA)

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) major developments

2.3.20 Staffing remained at the same level as in the previous year with four Professional posts (of whom two were Junior Professional Officers) in the UNHCR Office of the Chargé de Mission. Four additional staff members were hired locally under temporary assistance in order to strengthen and improve project implementation, monitoring and control.

2.3.21 Administrative expenditure in 1992 was higher than the revised 1992 budget in staff costs, travel, and general operating expenses. The over-expenditure in staff costs was due to higher-than-anticipated costs for the transfer and installation of Professional staff members. The over-expenditure in travel was due to the need to undertake additional local and regional travel in connection with the CPA and the monitoring of the local settlement of Indo-Chinese refugees. The PSA over-expenditure under General Programmes was funded through transfers between appropriations.

2.3.22 UNHCR procured non-expendable property for the Office in 1992 including computer equipment, a new telephone system and furniture.

b) 1993 Revised estimates

2.3.23 The activities and staffing level of the UNHCR Office of the Chargé de Mission in 1993 are expected to be consistent with those in 1992. Consequently, the revised administrative budget for 1993 is not significantly different than the revised 1992 budget. The travel allocation has been increased slightly to allow for more frequent monitoring missions and for

greater participation by UNHCR in individual project selection and formulation.

2.3.24 An additional office vehicle will be purchased in 1993 to facilitate the travel of staff and delivery of documentation within Beijing.

c) 1994 Initial estimates

2.3.25 As in 1993, no significant change in the level of staffing is envisaged for 1994. Therefore the initial adminstrative budget for 1994 is approximately the same as the revised 1993 budget. There is, however, a slight reduction in the provision for the replacement and purchase of non-expendable property.

UNHCR EXPENDITURE IN CHINA

(in thousands of United States dollars)

1992	1993		1994	
AMOUNT OBLIGATED	ALLOCATION APPROVED BY 1992 EXCOM	PROPOSED REVISED ALLOCATION	SOURCE OF FUNDS AND TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	PROPOSED ALLOCATION/ PROJECTION
GENERAL PROGRAMMES (1)				
150.0	–	–	EMERGENCY FUND	–
224.9 a/	200.0	65.0	CARE AND MAINTENANCE Basic assistance to non-Indochinese refugees pending a durable solution	48.0
2.5 b/	–	–	VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION	–
3,000.0	2,200.0	2,286.0	LOCAL SETTLEMENT Assistance to Indochinese refugees towards their self-sufficiency	1,700.0
2.6 b/	–	–	RESETTLEMENT	–
399.8	292.7	307.1	PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN. See Annexes I and II	291.6
3,779.8	2,692.7	2,658.1	Sub-total (1)	2,039.6
SPECIAL PROGRAMMES (2)				
			OTHER TRUST FUNDS	
118.8	57.8	105.1	PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN. Junior Professional Officer	105.1
306.1	200.0	372.4	COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF ACTION	–
424.9	257.8	477.5	Sub-total (2)	105.1
4,204.7	**2,950.5**	**3,135.6**	**GRAND TOTAL (1+2)**	**2,144.7**

a/ of which US$ 8,440 incurred against Overall Allocation

b/ obligation incurred against Overall Allocation

2.4 HONG KONG

Overview

Characteristics of the refugee population

2.4.1 During 1992, a total of nine Vietnamese asylum-seekers arrived in Hong Kong. This represented a dramatic decrease in the rate of arrival compared to 20,208 arrivals in 1991. The total Vietnamese population at 31 December 1992 stood at 45,317. There were no new arrivals during the first four months of 1993. At the end of April 1993, the total Vietnamese camp population stood at 42,515. Of these, 2,442 were refugees and 31,218 had been determined not to be refugees. The remainder of the population, 8,855 persons, were asylum-seekers awaiting refugee status determination.

2.4.2 The refugees are of both rural and urban background and have for the most part received only primary education. Approximately 59 per cent of the population are males and 41 per cent females, while 22 per cent are children below 16 years of age.

2.4.3 The majority of the population of asylum-seekers and persons determined not to be refugees are from northern Viet Nam. As with the refugee population, the asylum-seeker population has in general received only primary education. Approximately 54 per cent of the asylum-seeker and non-refugee population are male while 46 per cent are female. Approximately 37 per cent of this population were children under 16.

2.4.4 Vietnamese refugees are accommodated in an open refugee centre, permitted freedom of movement and enjoy the right to employment. Asylum-seekers and those who have been determined not to be refugees are accommodated in a number of detention centres located in the urban areas of Hong Kong and the outlying islands.

Major developments (1992 and first quarter 1993)

2.4.5 During 1992, a total of 12,333 Vietnamese asylum-seekers voluntarily repatriated to Viet Nam. An additional 3,046 returned during the first five months of 1993, bringing the total number of voluntary returnees since 1989 to 29,381. Resettlement for Vietnamese refugees continued in 1992 during which a total of 2,236 left Hong Kong for resettlement countries. A total of 494 Vietnamese refugees departed for resettlement in the first four months of 1993.

2.4.6 Within the framework of the Comprehensive Plan of Action for Indo-Chinese Refugees (CPA), the status determination procedure continued to be implemented in 1992 and in 1993. It is expected that the first instance

status determination procedure will be completed by the end of 1993 and all appeal cases will be reviewed by mid-1994. In 1992, a total of 1,100 Vietnamese received positive decisions in the first instance, while 197 persons received positive decisions at the appeal stage. In the first four months of 1993, some 350 persons received positive decisions. During 1992, the Special Committee, charged with implementation of special procedures for unaccompanied minors and other cases of special humanitarian concern, had made 43 recommendations for resettlement and 858 recommendations for return to Viet Nam. Decisions on unaccompanied minors were taken based on the best interest of the child. A further five recommendations for resettlement were made in the first four months of 1993.

2.4.7 On 12 May 1992, the Government of the United Kingdom and Hong Kong and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam signed an agreement for the return of Vietnemese non-refugees under an Orderly Return Programme (ORP II). Some 400 non-refugees were returned to Viet Nam in 1992 under this programme and an additional 180 were returned in the first four months of 1993.

2.4.8 In 1992, the UNHCR Chief of Mission in Hong Kong initiated a thorough re-examination of the delivery of assistance in order to determine how best to serve the rapidly growing Vietnamese population determined not to be refugees, keeping in mind the financial constraints as well as the negative consequences of life in detention centres. This process of review and adjustment has been carried into 1993. A mission from the UNHCR Programme and Technical Support Section (PTSS) was undertaken in January 1993 to review the situation of refugee women and children.

Programme objectives and priorities

2.4.9 Within the framework of the CPA, the main objectives in 1993 continue to be the provision through non-governmental organizations (NGOs) of care and maintenance to Vietnamese refugees, asylum-seekers and persons determined not to be refugees and ensuring that refugee status determination is carried out in accordance with international standards.

2.4.10 During 1993, every effort will be made to speed up the review of all cases in the first instance of the refugee determination procedure. The promotion of voluntary repatriation will be intensified by focusing on an information campaign. More current, comprehensive and factual information about Viet Nam will be made available to the Vietnamese in the detention centres. A geographically specific information kit was made available to field staff in 1992 for these activities. This information kit was also shared with other UNHCR offices in the region. With regard to the unaccompanied minors, special attention will be laid on encouraging those for whom return has been determined to be in their best interest, to repatriate as soon as possible and rejoin their families in Viet Nam. To this effect, a special UNHCR task force and a case-management team have been created.

Arrangements for implementation/related inputs

2.4.11 Assistance to refugees and asylum-seekers will continue to be provided by the Hong Kong authorities, voluntary agencies and UNHCR. The Hong Kong authorities provide the land, the cost of infrastructure and the cost of managing the detention centres, while UNHCR assumes the costs of care and maintenance as well as a number of service programmes in the detention centres. UNHCR also funds the health care and management costs at the open refugee centre managed by Hong Kong Housing Services for Refugees.

2.4.12 In addition, UNHCR assumes the costs of services related to resettlement, medical care, education, employment, counselling, food allowances for unemployed refugees and social services. The voluntary agencies implement legal-advice services that assist with preparation for the review of first-instance decisions and also provide education and social services. The main implementing agencies are Hong Kong Housing Services for Refugees, Hong Kong Christian Aid to Refugees, Hong Kong Agency for Volunteer Service, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF-Belgium), Save the Children Fund, Caritas, International Social Service, the British Red Cross and Community & Family Services International. UNHCR participates as an observer and provides advice in the status determination procedure and is directly responsible for voluntary repatriation. There is a UNHCR presence in all centres.

2.4.13 UNHCR in past years has not been able to raise sufficient funds for the care and maintenance programme in Hong Kong. As of the end of 1992, Hong Kong has therefore borne from its own funds an estimated total of some $ 70 million, for which it is asking to be reimbursed.

General Programmes

Care and Maintenance

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.4.14 During 1992, care and maintenance assistance was provided to Vietnamese refugees in the form of medical care, domestic needs, education, employment counselling, food allowances for the needy and social services. As the refugees enjoy the right to employment, they contributed to the rent, food as well as utility costs and made a token contribution to education.

2.4.15 Care and maintenance assistance in the form of individual/family support was also provided to non-Indo-Chinese asylum-seekers in 1992.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.4.16 Assistance in the same form as in 1992 is provided in 1993 to Vietnamese refugees. The initial 1993 appropriation is decreased mainly due to a reduced caseload.

2.4.17 The proposed appropriation for 1993 for non-Indo-Chinese asylum-seekers is slightly increased due to high accommodation costs.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.4.18 The 1994 assistance programme for Vietnamese which will provide the same form of assistance as in 1993 is based on a smaller caseload.

2.4.19 With regard to non-Indo-Chinese asylum-seekers, the same level of assistance is foreseen for 1994.

2.4.20 The revised requirements for 1993 and proposed appropriation for 1994 are as follows (in US dollars):

Sector	Initial 1993	Revised 1993	Initial 1994
Food	1,585,435	1,304,043	868,745
Transport	39,625	32,592	28,563
Domestic needs	240,600	238,297	180,756
Water	152,170	125,162	71,405
Health	158,885	130,685	105,210
Shelter	172,995	142,291	145,703
Community service	142,040	116,830	62,135
Education	223,280	183,651	109,782
Income generation	100,550	82,704	56,755
Legal assistance	990	814	996
Agency op. support	28,730	23,631	49,250
Project personnel	993,000	583,800	518,100
Total	$ 3,838,300	$ 2,964,500	$ 2,197,400

Resettlement

a) 1992- 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.4.21 During 1992, counselling was provided to refugees, and documentation and processing of cases for resettlement was undertaken.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.4.22 Refugees will continue to be resettled throughout 1993. It is expected that the refugee caseload will decrease in 1993. Consequently, provision is made for severance payment costs for staff with the result that the proposed 1993 appropriation is increased.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.4.23 The same form of assistance provided in 1993 is forseen for 1994 for an estimated caseload of 1,500.

Special Programmes

Comprehensive Plan of Action for Indo-Chinese Refugees (CPA)

Care and Maintenance

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.4.24 In 1992, as in previous years, care and maintenance assistance funded from Special Programmes was provided to asylum-seekers and persons not recognized as refugees in 1992. Assistance took the form of food, water, health, sanitation, shelter, domestic needs and education. The specific needs of women and children asylum-seekers were being catered for. Infants and pregnant women received special dietary supplements. All pregnant women received regular pre-natal care either in the outside hospital or in camp clinics which are staffed by qualified midwives and doctors/obstetricians. Maternal and child clinics in the centres were staffed by qualified nurses. The well-baby service monitored the growth and development of all children below the age of six years and provided supplementary feeding for children who were malnourished. Assistance in the same form is being provided in 1993.

2.4.25 Eight legal consultants were employed in 1992 to monitor the implementation of refugee status determination procedures. In addition, 17 appeal counsellors were employed in 1992 giving a maximum of 204 legal counselling and advice sessions per week.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.4.26 The same form of assistance is being provided in 1993. The initial 1993 allocation has been decreased due to a reduced caseload and the streamlining of the assistance projects. In 1993 eight legal consultants continue to monitor the status determination procedures. However, they have been employed as NGO staff rather than UNHCR consultants. The same number of

appeal counsellors as in 1992 are employed in 1993. The initial 1993 allocation is increased in order to cover the cost of legal consultants' contracts under an NGO.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.4.27 The 1994 requirements are based on a smaller caseload. The standards and levels of assistance provided in 1994 are the same as in 1993.

2.4.28 The status determination procedure for all asylum-seekers is expected to be completed by mid-1994.

Repatriation

a) 1992 -1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.4.29 The repatriation assistance programme as implemented in 1990 and 1991 continued in 1992. The rate of departure in 1992 increased by approximately 40 per cent compared to 1991. However, the rate of departure was lower in the first quarter of 1993 than in 1992. It is expected that as the camp population declines, sustaining the momentum of voluntary repatriation will become increasingly difficult. Periodic reviews were undertaken throughout 1992 and the first quarter of 1993 to identify measures to promote voluntary return.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.4.30 The increase of the initial 1993 allocation is mainly due to increased staff costs to assist in the repatriation of unaccompanied minors for family reunification.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.4.31 It is proposed to continue to provide repatriation assistance in 1994.

Project Personnel Expenditure (PPE)/Programme Support and Administration (PSA)

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) major developments

2.4.32 The UNHCR Office of the Chargé de Mission operated normally in 1992 with the same UNHCR staffing level as the previous year. UNHCR's presence in the detention centres, refugee camps, and staffing levels in the Office of the Chargé de Mission will be reviewed in the second half of 1993 by a mission from UNHCR Headquarters. Besides the international Professional and local General Service staff members deployed in Hong Kong, eight legal

consultants were engaged in 1992 to monitor refugee status determination procedures.

2.4.33 Staff security was a constant concern throughout 1992 as a result of heightened tension and security-related incidents within the detention centres, which at times resulted in temporary reductions in UNHCR's activities and presence. UNHCR liaised closely with the Hong Kong authorities to ensure effective coordination and timely contingency planning.

2.4.34 Administrative expenditure in 1992 under Special Programmes was lower than estimated. There was, however, some over-expenditure in PSA and PPE under General Programmes which was met through transfers between appropriations.

b) 1993 - Revised estimates

2.4.35 No significant change in the overall administrative requirements in 1993 is envisaged; however, the 1993 revised administrative budget under General and Special Programmes is approximately $ 300,000 lower than 1992 expenditure because of the above-mentioned change in the contractual status of the legal consultants.

c) 1994 - Initial estimates

2.4.36 At the end of 1993 two international Professional posts will be discontinued. At the end of June 1994 four additional international Professional posts are also scheduled for discontinuation. The initial budget for administrative expenditure under General and Special Programmes in 1994 is therefore significantly lower than the revised estimate for 1993 as a result of reductions in salaries and staff costs, provisions for consultancies, travel, and the need for purchase and replacement of non-expendable property.

UNHCR EXPENDITURE IN HONG KONG

(in thousands of United States dollars)

1992	1993		1994	
AMOUNT OBLIGATED	ALLOCATION APPROVED BY 1992 EXCOM	PROPOSED REVISED ALLOCATION	SOURCE OF FUNDS AND TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	PROPOSED ALLOCATION/ PROJECTION
GENERAL PROGRAMMES (1)				
4,126.3	3,878.4	2,964.5	CARE AND MAINTENANCE Care and maintenance including counselling for some 2,000 refugees in camps	2,197.4
640.2	327.8	384.6	RESETTLEMENT Counselling and specialized resettlement processing for Indochinese refugees	254.5
543.1	504.1	612.5	PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN. See Annexes I and II	586.1
5,309.6	4,710.3	3,961.6	Sub-total (1)	3,038.0
SPECIAL PROGRAMMES (2)				
27.2	–	–	OTHER TRUST FUNDS	–
–	0.8	–	PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN. Junior Professional Officer	–
19,203.9	40,000.0	36,181.0	COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF ACTION	26,057.2
19,231.1	40,000.8	36,181.0	Sub-total (2)	26,057.2
24,540.7	**44,711.1**	**40,142.6**	**GRAND TOTAL (1+2)**	**29,095.2**

2.5 INDONESIA

Country Overview

Characteristics of the refugee population

2.5.1 Indonesia hosted 15,585 refugees and asylum-seekers at 31 December 1992, comprising 14,990 Vietnamese, 576 Cambodians and 19 refugees from other countries, including Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sri Lanka and former Yugoslavia.

2.5.2 The Vietnamese and the Cambodians reside in a camp on Galang Island which is managed by the Indonesian authorities with funds allocated by UNHCR. The non-Indo-Chinese refugees live mainly in Jakarta and receive UNHCR assistance.

2.5.3 The Indo-Chinese population at the Galang camp decreased by 17 per cent in 1992, compared to a population of 18,702 at the end of 1991. The decrease was due to voluntary repatriation and resettlement under the Comprehensive Plan of Action for Indo-Chinese refugees (CPA). Only 18 new arrivals were registered during 1992, compared to 493 in 1991. Approximately 37 per cent of the Vietnamese and 42 per cent of the Cambodians are women, while 11 per cent of the total population (1,739) are children below 18, of which 139 are unaccompanied minors awaiting return to Viet Nam. At 31 March 1993, 14,323 asylum-seekers and refugees were living on Galang Island.

Major developments (1992 and first quarter 1993)

2.5.4 In December 1992, the Government of Indonesia stated its intention to close the Galang camp at the end of 1993 since the implementation of a comprehensive industrial development plan for the island is scheduled to commence soon and is expected to be completed before the end of 1995. Rejected asylum-seekers should, therefore, opt to return to Viet Nam voluntarily. This announcement is expected to have a positive impact on the rate of voluntary repatriation of screened-out asylum-seekers.

2.5.5 In February 1993, first instance interviews of all asylum-seekers, conducted in accordance with the CPA, were completed. This included an assessment of the best interest of all unaccompanied minors and vulnerable cases by the Special Committee. It is expected that all interviews of persons appealing the first instance decisions will be completed, and decisions on their appeals taken and released, by the end of the third quarter of 1993. At the end of 1993, as a result of the screening and the resettlement of almost all the recognized Vietnamese refugees, the population in Galang will be composed almost exclusively of non-refugees.

2.5.6 UNHCR planning focused in particular on expediting screening, promoting durable solutions and, in the longer term, phasing out activities in the camp.

2.5.7 Following a UNHCR regional meeting in Kuala Lumpur in February 1993, guidelines were issued for the implementation of the family reunification operation for unaccompanied minors returning to Viet Nam. The aim is to return to Viet Nam all those unaccompanied minors for whom it has been decided that this is in their best interest. The first three minors left Galang under this programme to join their families in Viet Nam in April 1993. The bulk of the residual caseload of minors is expected to join their families in Viet Nam during 1993.

Programme objectives and priorities

2.5.8 The completion of refugee status determination procedures for all asylum-seekers in Galang will also imply an adjustment of assistance activities in line with Galang's status as a camp of temporary refuge. All activities in the camp will be streamlined to take into account the reduced population, and efforts will be directed towards the promotion of voluntary repatriation. Implementation of the family reunification operation for unaccompanied minors will be another principal objective during 1993.

Arrangements for implementation/related inputs

2.5.9 UNHCR's main operational partner is the Government of Indonesia through its Inter-Departmental Refugee Task Force (P3V-Handling and Processing of Vietnamese Refugees) which is supervised by a Chairman based in Jakarta (P3VP), a Chairman in Tanjung Pinang (P3VD-NAVY), where the UNHCR Sub-Office is located, and a Commandant on Galang Island (P3VG-Police). The operations in Tanjung Pinang and Galang are directed by the Commandant of the Navy in Tanjung Pinang. The Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) works in the health sector and is also in charge of tracing and mail services. In December 1992, PMI took over from UNHCR the responsibility for social counselling. The Consortium of Save the Children Federation and the Experiment in International Living provided primary education and vocational training in 1992 and will continue to implement these activities in 1993. However, in order to streamline activities in the camp, vocational training will not be provided in 1994 and PMI will assume responsibility for primary education after training and appropriate hand-over. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) arranges medical examinations and travel for those asylum-seekers who opt for voluntary repatriation and for refugees who are being resettled to third countries. "Yayasan Usaha Sejahtera Indonesia" (YUSI) seconded staff to UNHCR to assist in overall project implementation. In 1992 the World Food Programme (WFP) supplied basic food commodities in Galang including rice, canned fish and meat, pulses, vegetable oil, sugar and salt, while UNHCR procured and distributed enriched noodles. WFP will continue to provide this food assistance in 1993. As of May 1993, however,

WFP has taken over from UNHCR the supply of enriched noodles. WFP is expected to provide similar assistance in 1994.

General Programmes

Care and Maintenance

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.5.10 UNHCR provided care and maintenance assistance to refugees in Indonesia including food; transport of food and non-food items; procurement of household fuel; maintenance of the water system and sanitation facilities in the camp; health care; maintenance and repair of shelter; social services; legal activities; and agency operational support. Apart from a brief interruption in the distribution of some food items in June 1992 due to contractual difficulties (which did not affect the nutritional status of the camp population as increased rations of other available commodities were distributed), assistance in all essential areas has been delivered at appropriate levels. The non-Indo-Chinese refugees received subsistence allowances at an appropriate rate.

2.5.11 In April 1992 PMI, under the supervision of UNHCR, began implementing a mother and child healthcare programme. Babies are weighed and measured and referred for medical care if necessary. In 1992, a total of 787 children were monitored and only 50 were found in need of supplementary feeding. A family planning programme is also being implemented in the camp, but lack of understanding of and/or cultural resistance to the family planning concept continue to be major obstacles. The birth rate in the camp is still high. Over 40 women have been trained as volunteers to work in this community-outreach programme. Abuse of women and the break-up of families are common phenomena, even in a relatively relaxed and open environment such as Galang. UNHCR acts as a referral resource for PMI's Social Welfare Unit dealing with domestic violence and women at risk. Responses to these problems include counselling, public information campaigns, crisis intervention and, where appropriate, referral to UNHCR.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.5.12 Indo-Chinese refugees continue to receive care and maintenance assistance including food, domestic items, health care, shelter and community services while awaiting durable solutions. An amount of $ 67,400 has been allocated for 1993. In addition $ 40,500, subsequently reduced to $ 39,400, have been allocated for the payment of subsistence allowances to the non-Indo-Chinese refugees living in Jakarta.

2.5.13 The needs of the asylum-seekers will continue to be covered by funds under Special Programmes, within the framework of the CPA.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.5.14 On the assumption that almost all Indo-Chinese refugees will have left Indonesia in 1993, an initial allocation of $ 39,400 is required only for non-Indo-Chinese refugees in 1994.

Resettlement

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.5.15 Resettlement remains the only viable durable solution for refugees in Indonesia. In 1992, a total of 1,403 refugees left for resettlement to Australia (426), Canada (307), Denmark (3), Finland (22), France (18), Germany (5), Japan (38), the Netherlands (15), New Zealand (8), Norway (48), Sweden (2), Switzerland (33), the United Kingdom (4) and the United States of America (474).

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.5.16 At the end of March 1993, a total of 2,317 refugees were registered in the Galang camp, of whom three belong to the pre-cut-off-date caseload. It is estimated that about ten per cent of the asylum-seekers still awaiting Appeals Board decisions (5,231 persons) will be recognized as refugees, bringing the total caseload of refugees eligible for resettlement to about 2,900 persons. The majority of these refugees are expected to be resettled to third countries within 1993. Costs for international transport and other related expenditure are covered under the Other Countries in Asia (OCA) project when the receiving country does not bear these costs.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.5.17 Only a few refugees should still be in Galang at the beginning of 1994. They are expected to be resettled within the first six months of the year.

Special Programmes

Comprehensive Plan Of Action for Indo-Chinese Refugees (CPA)

Care and Maintenance

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.5.18 Care and maintenance assistance for asylum-seekers awaiting refugee status decisions or already screened-out, both in the first instance and on appeal, is provided with funds raised under Special Programmes within the framework of the CPA. The asylum-seekers received multi-sectoral assistance including food, household fuel, health care, shelter, community services and legal assistance. The team working on refugee status determination (RSD) was strengthened in 1992 to permit the completion of this activity in 1993. The cost of indemnities for the Government officials who are members of the RSD Committee and the Appeals Board were also covered.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.5.19 The initial allocation for the 1993 care and maintenance project, amounting to $ 1,565,700, has been scaled down to $ 1,521,870. This decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the number of staff seconded by YUSI for the refugee status determination procedure which is expected to be completed during the third quarter of the year.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.5.20 UNHCR will continue to provide care and maintenance assistance to an estimated 5,000 screened-out asylum-seekers in the Galang camp awaiting durable solutions under the CPA.

Voluntary Repatriation

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.5.21 Special efforts were directed to promote and implement the voluntary repatriation programme. In 1992 a total of 1,001 Vietnamese and 685 Cambodians availed themselves of this option. From January to March 1993, a total of 243 Vietnamese and twelve Cambodians left Indonesia for their respective countries of origin. Promotion of voluntary repatriation included primary education for children using curriculum consistent with that used in Viet Nam, and vocational training programmes particularly targeting women so as to improve their chances of employment upon return to Viet Nam.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.5.22 The 1993 initial allocation for the promotion and implementation of repatriation under the CPA of $ 414,200 has been revised upwards to $ 428,500; this increase takes into account separation benefits for agency staff.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.5.23 For repatriation under the CPA, an initial allocation of $ 100,500 is required for 1994. This reduction is due to the phasing out of vocational training activities, which will be available to returnees in Viet Nam, and to the fact that primary education will be funded under the care and maintenance project.

Project Personnel Expenditure (PPE)/Programme Support and Administration (PSA)

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) major developments

2.5.24 The UNHCR Branch Office moved into new premises in January 1992, a move made possible by the reduction in 1991 in the overall staffing level and a decision to decentralize programming responsibility to the greatest extent possible to the Sub-Office in Tanjung Pinang and Galang Camp.

2.5.25 In order to accelerate the rate of interviews and decisions in the refugee status determination procedure, the number of UNHCR legal consultants in Indonesia was increased in 1992.

2.5.26 Space became available for UNHCR in the United Nations building in Jakarta at the end of 1992. This option had not been available to UNHCR when seeking new premises in 1991. Given the financial advantage of sharing premises with other United Nations agencies in Jakarta and in view of the likelihood that UNHCR's presence in Indonesia will not increase, relocation of the office was deemed appropriate. The Branch Office moved into the United Nations building in January 1993.

2.5.27 Administrative expenditure under General and Special Programmes was lower than projected in all categories of expenditure despite the move to new premises. A further reduction in staffing levels during 1992 in both Jakarta and Tanjung Pinang led to savings in staff costs. Savings were also inccurred as a result of unforeseen delays in the filling of vacant posts.

b) 1993 Revised estimates

2.5.28 The 1993 revised estimate under General and Special Programmes is significantly lower than actual expenditure in 1992. This is because the number of legal consultants will be reduced significantly when the refugee

status determination procedure is completed in the last half of the year. In addition, there will be reductions in general operating expenses resulting from the move to new premises and the diminished need for purchase and replacement of non-expendable property.

2.5.29 One Professional post will be redeployed from Tanjung Pinang to Jakarta in June 1993.

c) 1994 Initial estimates

2.5.30 The 1994 initial estimate for administrative expenditure under General and Special Programmes is significantly lower than the 1993 revised estimate due to planned reductions in staffing levels in Tanjung Pinang and the planned completion of refugee status determination procedures, thus obviating the need for legal consultants. Budgets for supplies, materials, and non-expendable property are also reduced.

UNHCR EXPENDITURE IN INDONESIA

(in thousands of United States dollars)

1992	1993		1994	
AMOUNT OBLIGATED	ALLOCATION APPROVED BY 1992 EXCOM	PROPOSED REVISED ALLOCATION	SOURCE OF FUNDS AND TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	PROPOSED ALLOCATION/ PROJECTION
GENERAL PROGRAMMES (1)				
261.7 a/	107.9	106.8	CARE AND MAINTENANCE Care and maintenance of Indochinese refugees pending resettlement and subsistence allowances for non-Indochinese refugees	39.4
4.9 b/	–	–	LOCAL SETTLEMENT	–
126.7	–	–	RESETTLEMENT	–
413.0	396.3	291.3	PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN. See Annexes I and II	305.3
806.3	504.2	398.1	Sub-total (1)	344.7
SPECIAL PROGRAMMES (2)				
6.9	–	–	OTHER TRUST FUNDS	–
96.3	80.0	33.2	PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN. Junior Professional Officer	33.2
173.8	–	–	CAMBODIA REPATRIATION OPERATION	–
3,925.1	2,950.0	2,685.1	COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF ACTION	1,106.5
4,202.1	3,030.0	2,718.3	Sub-total (2)	1,139.7
5,008.4	**3,534.2**	**3,116.4**	**GRAND TOTAL (1+2)**	**1,484.4**

a/ of which US$ 38,615 incurred against Overall Allocation

b/ obligation incurred against Overall Allocation

2.6 MALAYSIA

Country Overview

Characteristics of the refugee population

2.6.1 At the end of 1992, a total of 15,065 asylum-seekers and refugees were living in Malaysia including 10,359 Vietnamese, 42 Cambodians and 4,664 persons of other nationalities. Of the non-Indo-Chinese, 23 were refugees and 4,641 asylum-seekers, mainly from Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Somalia, Sri Lanka and the Sudan.

2.6.2 The Vietnamese and the Cambodians live in a closed camp managed by the Malaysian authorities, with UNHCR funds, at Sungei Besi, some 14 km from Kuala Lumpur. The non-Indo-Chinese refugees and asylum-seekers are scattered around the country; however, the majority are living in the capital.

2.6.3 The Indo-Chinese population at Sungei Besi decreased by 16 per cent in 1992, compared to the population of 12,493 at the end of 1991, following the implementation of resettlement and voluntary repatriation programmes. Only one new arrival was registered in 1992. Approximately 35 per cent of the population is composed of women, while 22 per cent are children below the age of 18, of whom 214 are unaccompanied minors. At 31 March 1993, a total of 9,524 asylum-seekers and refugees were living in Sungei Besi camp.

Major developments (1992 and first quarter 1993)

2.6.4 First instance interviews within the refugee status determination procedure were completed in January 1993 for all Vietnamese, and all remaining decisions are expected to be released to the asylum-seekers concerned in the second quarter of 1993. The Appeals Board is expected to examine all cases brought to its attention and release its final decisions before the end of November 1993.

2.6.5 As a result of the decrease in the Indo-Chinese population, the UNHCR Sub-Office in Kuala Trengganu, which was established in 1978 primarily to accommodate Vietnamese boat people, was officially closed on 31 March 1992.

2.6.6 From January to March 1993, some 100 Bosnian ex-detainees were granted temporary asylum. The Malaysian Government, through the Muslim welfare organization, PERKIM, is providing assistance to this group.

2.6.7 Some 1,600 Cambodian refugees who were accepted for local integration during 1992 have completed their language and cultural-orientation training and will leave the reception centre in Cherating camp to begin normal life in local communities during the second quarter of 1993.

Programme objectives and priorities

2.6.8 The attainment of appropriate durable solutions for all groups of concern to UNHCR will be actively pursued.

2.6.9 The assistance programme for Vietnamese and Cambodian asylum-seekers at Sungei Besi has been designed in line with the objectives of the Comprehensive Plan of Action for Indo-Chinese Refugees (CPA). The various activities and services provided will be reviewed regularly to ensure that they are consonant with efforts to promote voluntary repatriation.

2.6.10 Implementation of the family reunification operation for unaccompanied minors will be a major UNHCR objective during 1993 and the first half of 1994. It is expected that all unaccompanied minors, for whom it has been decided that return to Viet Nam is in their best interest, will have joined their families in Viet Nam by that time.

Arrangements for implementation/related inputs

2.6.11 The Prime Minister's office, through a National Task Force, is the focal point for all matters concerning the Vietnamese boat people. The Malaysian Red Crescent Society (MRCS) continues to be the main UNHCR operational partner, implementing the care and maintenance project as well as the repatriation project for the Indo-Chinese. Staff is seconded to MRCS by several non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), World Concern International, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Médecins sans Frontières MSF (France), Philippines Red Cross, New Zealand Red Cross, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), Council of World Churches and Refugee Action UK. The Muslim welfare organization, PERKIM, implemented the local settlement project for the Cambodians and implements the care and maintenance project for the non-Indo-Chinese refugees. IOM arranges medical examinations and travel for asylum-seekers who return voluntarily to Viet Nam and for refugees resettled to third countries.

General Programmes

Care and Maintenance

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.6.12 UNHCR provided assistance to the Indo-Chinese refugees at Sungei Besi, including food, domestic items, water supply, sanitation facilities, health care, shelter and social services. Transport of food and non-food items as well as support to operational partner were also financed by UNHCR. Subsistence allowances were disbursed for the non-Indo-Chinese refugees and for some Rohingyas and Achehnese asylum-seekers who were considered persons of UNHCR's concern.

2.6.13 In the camp, emphasis was mainly given to the maintenance and repair of the sanitation and shelter facilities, although assistance was also provided in other sectors as well.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.6.14 The Indo-Chinese refugees will continue to receive assistance including food, domestic items, water, sanitation facilities, health care, shelter and social services while procedures for their resettlement to third countries are under way. The initial allocation of $ 463,900 has been subsequently revised downwards to $ 405,600. Major savings were possible in the agency operational support sector following the reduction of staff within MRCS. In addition, further savings will be achieved in the assistance project for the non-Indo-Chinese refugees and asylum-seekers, where the initial allocation of $ 250,000 has been reduced to $144,000.

2.6.15 In connection with the United Nations Year of the Family, emphasis will be given to measures which address needs on a family-group basis. Refugee women will be encouraged to participate in efforts to promote community self-management, and in various camp activities including health, education and administration on a voluntary and self-help basis.

2.6.16 The assistance to Indo-Chinese asylum-seekers will continue to be covered by funds under Special Programmes, within the framework of the CPA.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.6.17 As almost all Indo-Chinese refugees will have left Malaysia for resettlement countries in 1994, funds are required only for the non-Indo-Chinese refugees and asylum-seekers. An initial allocation of $ 120,400 will cover the care and maintenance needs of an estimated 245 beneficiaries.

Local Settlement

1992 and 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.6.18 As stated above, the last group of Cambodians who were allowed to integrate in Malaysia received adequate training aimed at their successful integration in their new country. The legal procedures for their integration were also completed during the first three months of 1993.

Resettlement

a) 1992 and 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.6.19 Resettlement is the durable solution available to Vietnamese refugees in Malaysia. A total of 1,496 refugees were resettled to third countries in 1992 as follows: Australia (325), Belgium (1), Canada (228), Denmark (36), France (33), Germany (1), Japan (49), the Netherlands (28), New Zealand (20), Norway (54), Sweden (4), Switzerland (80), the United Kingdom (1) and the United States of America (636). An additional 438 refugees were resettled during the first three months of 1993.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.6.20 A total of 1,642 refugees, of whom 7 belong to the pre-cut-off date caseload, were registered at Sungei Besi at the end of March 1993. Some 111 asylum-seekers are still awaiting Appeal Board decisions on their status. As it is estimated that positive decisions may be expected for 10 per cent of these, the total number of refugees in need of resettlement will be approximately 1,655. The majority of these refugees are expected to leave for resettlement countries in 1993. Funds for travel and related expenses, if not met by the receiving countries, will be charged to the Other Countries in Asia (OCA) project.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.6.21 Only a few Vietnamese refugees are likely to remain in Malaysia in 1994; those remaining are expected to leave for resettlement countries in the first half of the year.

Special Programmes

Comprehensive Plan of Action for Indo-Chinese Refugees (CPA)

Care and Maintenance

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.6.22 Care and maintenance for the Indo-Chinese asylum-seekers awaiting decisions on their refugee status or already screened-out is provided through funds raised under the CPA. An average of 11,000 persons received multi-sectoral assistance in 1992, which included food, domestic items, water supply, sanitation facilities, shelter and social services. These funds also covered the implementation of the refugee status determination procedure.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.6.23 The initial allocation for care and maintenance of $ 1,954,400 has been reduced to $ 1,702,200. Savings were identified in the agency operational support sector as well as in the implementation of the refugee status determination procedure, as a result of the decrease in the number of beneficiaries.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.6.24 UNHCR will continue to provide care and maintenance for an estimated 5,650 Indo-Chinese screened-out asylum-seekers in Sungei Besi camp within the framework of the CPA. Primary and secondary education, in previous years funded under the repatriation project, will also be covered by the care and maintenance project. Initial estimated requirements amount to $ 1,673,788.

Other Trust Funds

2.6.25 A donation of 1,138 mt of rice was received in 1992 for the refugees in Sungei Besi.

Voluntary Repatriation

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.6.26 Promotion of voluntary repatriation through the dissemination of information and counselling was carried out throughout the year. As a result, 756 Vietnamese and 197 Cambodians opted to return to their respective countries of origin in 1992. During the first three months of 1993 a total of 387 Vietnamese and one Cambodian chose to return.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.6.27 Sensitization campaigns aimed at promoting voluntary repatriation, as well as primary and secondary education and vocational training activities will continue to be carried out in 1993. Following a reassessment of needs, the initial allocation of $ 308,000 has been reduced to $ 191,800.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.6.28 Efforts will continue to promote voluntary repatriation among Vietnamese screened-out asylum-seekers as well as the residual group of Cambodians. Initial estimated requirements amount to $ 43,600.

Project Personnel Expenditure (PPE)/Programme Support and Administration (PSA)

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) major developments

2.6.29 As a result of progress in securing durable solutions for refugees and asylum-seekers, administrative expenditure under General and Special Programmes was significantly lower than projected. The slight PSA over-expenditure was funded by PPE savings during the same period. The overall savings were achieved primarily because of the early closure of the Sub-Office in Kuala Terengganu at the end of March 1992, instead of at mid-year as was originally planned. This permitted the discontinuation of two international Professional posts and three local General Service posts in the first half of 1992.

2.6.30 UNHCR Headquarters fielded a mission to Malaysia in July 1992 to review staffing levels. On the basis of the mission's recommendations and subsequent review in UNHCR Headquarters, the overall staffing level in Malaysia was further reduced at the end of 1992 by the discontinuation of two additional Professional posts in the Branch Office in Kuala Lumpur.

2.6.31 The UNHCR Branch Office in Malaysia assumed responsibility for the UNHCR office in Singapore, which was re-classified as a Sub-Office as of 1 January 1993.

2.6.32 An incident involving asylum-seekers at the Branch Office in April 1992 necessitated tighter security measures and the hiring of security guards. This arrangement has been maintained in 1993.

b) 1993 Revised estimates

2.6.33 In the absence of significant numbers of new arrivals and in expectation of continuing progress in achieving durable solutions for refugees and asylum-seekers, the revised estimate for administrative expenditure under General and Special Programmes is over $500,000 less than

the expenditure in 1992. This reduction is mainly possible because of the discontinuation of posts in the latter half of 1992 and as a result of the planned discontinuation of an additional international Professional post in mid-1993.

c) 1994 Initial estimates

2.6.34 An allocation of $ 758,500 for administrative expenditure under General and Special Programmes is projected for 1994, which is $ 475,800 lower than the 1993 revised estimate. As in 1993, this reduction is rendered possible by the planned discontinuation of posts in 1993 and the anticipated discontinuation of four local General Service posts in mid 1994. Expenditure for travel, general operating expenses, supplies, materials, and non-expendable property is projected to be consistent with the planned expenditure in 1993.

UNHCR EXPENDITURE IN MALAYSIA

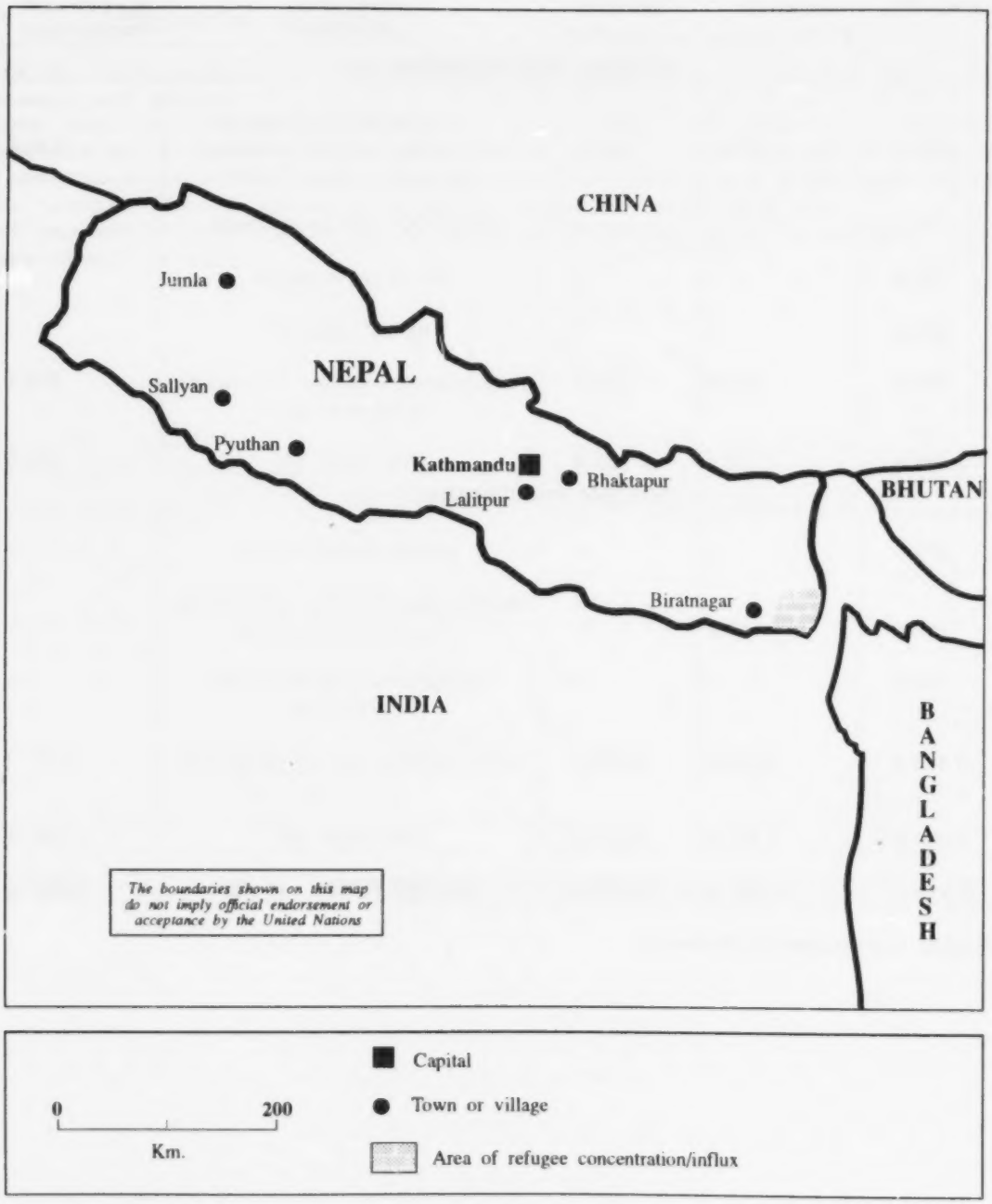
(in thousands of United States dollars)

1992	1993		1994	
AMOUNT OBLIGATED	ALLOCATION APPROVED BY 1992 EXCOM	PROPOSED REVISED ALLOCATION	SOURCE OF FUNDS AND TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	PROPOSED ALLOCATION/ PROJECTION
GENERAL PROGRAMMES (1)				
711.9	713.9	549.6	CARE AND MAINTENANCE Care and maintenance of Indochinese and non-Indochinese refugees	120.4
3.1 a/	–	–	VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION	–
791.2	–	–	LOCAL SETTLEMENT	–
385.9	–	–	RESETTLEMENT	–
496.8	412.5	413.2	PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN. See Annexes I and II	379.1
2,388.9	1,126.4	962.8	Sub-total (1)	499.5
SPECIAL PROGRAMMES (2)				
274.0	–	–	OTHER TRUST FUNDS	–
120.6	77.2	–	PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN. Junior Professional Officer	–
49.2	–	–	CAMBODIA REPATRIATION OPERATION	–
3,578.0	2,850.0	2,401.8	COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF ACTION	1,881.4
4,021.8	2,927.2	2,401.8	Sub-total (2)	1,881.4
6,410.7	**4,053.6**	**3,364.6**	**GRAND TOTAL (1+2)**	**2,380.9**

a/ obligation incurred against Overall Allocation

NEPAL

Area	141,000 sq. km.
Estimated Population	20,580,000 (1992)
Population density	146 per sq. km. (approx.)



2.7 NEPAL

Country Overview

Characteristics of the refugee population

2.7.1 At 31 December 1992 Nepal hosted 75,441 refugees and asylum-seekers originating from Bhutan. There is also an urban caseload of eleven persons. The Bhutanese are accommodated in eight camps in Jhapa and Morang districts of south-east Nepal and are mainly Hindus of Nepalese extraction claiming to originate from southern Bhutan, where the great majority were engaged in farming, although not all owned their own farms. The refugees arrived in family groups, hence their gender and age distribution follow southern Bhutanese norms. A census of refugees in the camps conducted in the last quarter of 1992 showed 53 per cent males, and 15 per cent children under five years of age.

2.7.2 A number of other asylum-seekers transit Nepal. In the course of 1992 some 2,500 such persons benefited from temporary accommodation in Kathmandu while in transit, and during the first five months of 1993 an additional 1,174 were assisted.

Major developments (1992 and first quarter 1993)

2.7.3 There was a major increase in the number of Bhutanese through August 1992, with some 65,000 arriving in the course of the year. This necessitated the deployment of an Emergency Response Team (ERT) from Headquarters to assist the Branch Office. A UNHCR presence was established in Jhapa in March 1992 and wider participation of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the relief effort was sought, particularly when malnutrition threatened the children and congestion in the camps created health hazards. The Government responded to these crises by progressively making available new camp sites so that refugees could be moved from overcrowded camps and new arrivals accommodated in planned sites. As the assistance stabilized and the emergency was brought under control towards the end of 1992, emphasis shifted towards finding durable solutions. UNHCR offered to be of assistance to the Governments of Nepal and Bhutan in finding an appropriate solution to the various categories of persons in the camps. Throughout 1992 and in the first half of 1993, the parties concerned preferred to continue discussions bilateraly.

Programme objectives and priorities

2.7.4 UNHCR has offered its assistance to the Governments of Nepal and Bhutan to screen the continuing flow of asylum-seekers and work out jointly modalities for possible solutions. Since June 1993 all new arrivals are

being screened individually to determine their refugee status. While continuing to provide adequate assistance in the camps, there is greater awareness of the need to avoid raising standards to such a degree that t'e camps become a pull factor and local populations are disadvantaged. Attention has also focused on mitigating the impact of refugee camps on the immediate environment and surrounding communities through a set of micro-projects in such areas as reafforestation, alternative energy sources, repair and upgrading of affected roads, extension of local water-supply systems, and improvement of educational and health facilities.

Arrangements for implementation/related inputs

2.7.5 The Home Ministry of the Government of Nepal is the focal point responsible for liaison with UNHCR. In Kathmandu a National Refugee Coordination Unit has been established. At the district level the Chief District Officer heads an Operations Management and Implementation Unit which is responsible for supervising assistance to refugees in Nepal. Within this framework a number of international and national NGOs manage and implement the assistance programme as UNHCR's operational partners. The Home Ministry is directly responsible for law and order in the camps and for the screening and registration of new arrivals.

2.7.6 The Lutheran World Service (LWS) assists in the distribution of food, most of which is contributed by the World Food Programme (WFP), and of domestic items for refugees. LWS is also responsible for constructing and maintaining infrastructure - water supply, sanitation and shelters - in the camps.

2.7.7 Save the Children Fund (UK) assists in providing preventive and curative health services in the camps and supervises a supplementary feeding programme. Caritas Nepal is the main partner in the educational sector and OXFAM in the community services sector.

General Programmes

Care and Maintenance

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.7.8 The main concern of the relief effort was to secure sufficient space to accommodate the growing influx. There are now a total of eight camps at Beldangi (3), Goldhap, Khudnabari (2), Snichari and Timai and the problem of overcrowding has been largely resolved. A programme to improve progressively the shelters constructed during the early emergency phase has gone hand in hand with the construction of more improved family latrines, centralized water systems in each camp, and more durable buildings for health centres,

classrooms, as well as community and administrative activities. By the end of March 1993 there were 14,480 shelters, 988 trench latrines, 686 pit latrines, 1,672 family latrines, 154 tube wells and 5 deep tube wells with 378 outlets. The improved physical conditions in the camps and a regular supply of food, including a basic ration of rice, pulses, fresh vegetables and oil for the whole population with a supplementary ration for vulnerable groups, have together contributed to reduce the overall mortality rate in the camps from 2.7 in April 1992 to 0.3 in March 1993. The mortality rate for children under five years of age diminished from 8.8 to 0.2 over this period.

2.7.9 Each camp has its own school run by refugee teachers using the Bhutanese curriculum and textbooks. During 1992 school enrolment rose from 5,000 to 18,000. Given the high premium set on education by the camp population, UNHCR has also arranged for a number of students to obtain scholarships to universities in India. The camps have also provided opportunities to develop community services, celebrate religious ceremonies, encourage sports and recreation, and provide literary training and enhance the income-generating skills of women.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.7.10 The initial allocation for 1993 did not foresee the continuing influx into Nepal and the consequent expansion of the camps in the south-east. There has therefore been a significant upward revision from $ 5.7 million to $ 7 million to account for the establishment of a new camp at Khudnabari, the opening of a screening centre at the Indian border, improvements in physical infrastructure in the camps, the addition of fresh vegetables to the general ration and the regular supply of kerosene to prevent refugees from felling trees. While assistance continues to be provided to the camp populations greater emphasis on screening of new arrivals is being laid to determine the status of refugees.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.7.11 The care and maintenance allocation for Nepal in 1994 is $ 6 million. A project to produce blended food in Nepal could provide a low-cost supply that would permit scaling down the ration of fresh vegetables, significantly reducing the budget for food and logistics. Except for the continuation of the improved-shelter programme, expenditure on physical infrastructure in the camps will be reduced to maintenance and running costs. Alternative energy sources will be explored and more cost-effective fuels identified to replace the kerosene ration. Expenditure will continue to be incurred on preserving the forests and UNHCR will use its good offices to seek funding for micro-projects which will mitigate the negative impact of the camps on the surrounding environment and population. Established arrangements for handling the flow of individual cases into Nepal will continue. As and when durable solutions for the Bhutanese caseload emerge, planning and implementation of related activities will be undertaken.

2.7.12 The sectoral breakdown for the initial and revised 1993 and the initial 1994 care and maintenance allocation is as follows (in US dollars):

Sector	Initial 1993*	Revised 1993	Initial 1994
Food	953,330	739,830	110,000
Transport	289,725	342,370	186,430
Domestic needs	788,071	989,990	1,082,075
Water	213,328	254,395	223,100
Sanitation	213,188	552,200	235,335
Health	1,057,635	1,037,465	709,135
Shelter	622,404	1,236,795	1,014,085
Community services	250,447	489,790	405,050
Education	54,979	327,425	329,355
Forestry	10,000	92,290	62,623
Income generation	0	0	50,270
Legal assistance	136,204	184,710	80,730
Agency op. support	850,689	800,140	644,012
Project personnel	243,100	909,800	901,100
Total	$ 5,683,100	$ 7,957,200	$ 6,033,300

* Taking into account increase approved by the Executive Committee in December 1992

Emergency Fund

2.7.13 The assistance programme designed in 1992 for some 9,000 Bhutanese refugees had to be increased in the course of the year with an allocation of $ 3,392,640 from the Emergency Fund to cover the greatly increased needs created by the new influx from Bhutan.

Project Personnel Expenditure (PPE)/Programme Support and Administration (PSA)

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) major developments

2.7.14 Following the influx of Bhutanese refugees into eastern Nepal, an ERT was deployed in May 1992. During the course of the year the Branch Office in Kathmandu was expanded and a Field Office was opened in March in Jhapa. In late November the Field Office became a UNHCR Sub-Office which by year's end had a staffing component of 14 posts. The Branch Office was staffed with eleven posts by the end of 1992.

2.7.15 As a result of the emergency situation, 1992 PSA administrative expenditures surpassed and the 1992 revised estimates. However, this additional expenditure was offset by savings under the PPE budget, which was

increased by an allocation of $ 509,400 from the Programme Reserve in July 1992 to provide funding for additional administrative requirements. The major components of the increase were staff costs and additional non-expendable property needed to establish the Field Office in Jhapa and strengthen the Branch Office in Kathmandu.

b) 1993 - Revised estimates

2.7.16 Revised 1993 administrative budget requirements total approximately $ 1.1 million. The increase is due to the budgeting of salaries for posts created at the end of 1992 as well as salaries and related costs for seven new posts in Kathmandu and ten new posts in Jhapa from 1 July 1993. Some of the additional posts were created to carry out UNHCR functions which had to be transferred from implementing partners. An additional Professional post may be necessary for Jhapa to monitor the screening exercise which has just commenced. The staff cost increases will be partially offset by a reduction in non-expendable property requirements, since much of the new equipment for the emergency operation was purchased in 1992, after the budget was increased through an allocation from the Programme Reserve. Nevertheless, two Branch Office vehicles, as well as some furniture and office equipment will have to be replaced in 1993. The move of the Branch Office to larger accomodations in Kathmandu will result in an increase in general operating expenses during the year.

c) 1994 - Initial estimates

2.7.17 Initial 1994 estimates differ little from the revised budget for 1993. Staff costs will be higher due to the need to budget the newly created posts for the entire year as well as the previcusly established posts in Kathmandu and Jhapa which have all been extended until 31 December 1994. The purchase of non-expendable property, however, will be limited during 1994, as most of the needed items will have been procured in 1992 and 1993. It is anticipated that no major staff increases should be required in 1994 given the more stable refugee situation and the reduced flow of new arrivals from Bhutan.

UNHCR EXPENDITURE IN NEPAL

(in thousands of United States dollars)

1992	1993		1994	
AMOUNT OBLIGATED	ALLOCATION APPROVED BY 1992 EXCOM	PROPOSED REVISED ALLOCATION	SOURCE OF FUNDS AND TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	PROPOSED ALLOCATION/ PROJECTION
GENERAL PROGRAMMES (1)				
3,392.6	–	–	EMERGENCY FUND	–
2,282.9	5,683.1	7,957.2	CARE AND MAINTENANCE Multisectoral assistance to Bhutanese refugees	6,033.3
2.3 a/	–	–	LOCAL SETTLEMENT	–
4.4 a/	–	–	RESETTLEMENT	–
173.1	123.9	190.1	PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN. See Annexes I and II	164.5
5,855.3	5,807.0	8,147.3	Sub–total (1)	6,197.8
SPECIAL PROGRAMMES (2)				
			OTHER TRUST FUNDS	
32.4	33.0	–	PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN. Junior Professional Officer	–
32.4	33.0	0.0	Sub–total (2)	0.0
5,887.7	**5,840.0**	**8,147.3**	**GRAND TOTAL (1+2)**	**6,197.8**

a/ obligations incurred against Overall Allocations

2.8 PHILIPPINES

Country Overview

Characteristics of the refugee population

2.8.1 At 31 December 1992 a total of 13,939 persons were registered with UNHCR in the Philippines. Of these, 5,807 were refugees and asylum-seekers comprised of 5,590 Vietnamese, one Cambodian and 216 non-Indo-Chinese from Afghanistan, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Liberia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Turkey. In addition, a total of 1,437 Vietnamese refugees, of whom 1,131 were in transit from Hong Kong and 306 from the asylum camp in the Philippines, and 6,695 Vietnamese from Viet Nam selected within the framework of the Orderly Departure Programme (ODP), were living in transit centres in the Philippines, awaiting the completion of resettlement procedures.

2.8.2 The Indo-Chinese asylum-seekers are living in the Philippine First Asylum Camp (PFAC) in Puerto Princesa on Palawan Island. The camp is administered by the Western Command of the Armed Forces with UNHCR funds. The Indo-Chinese refugees are hosted in the Philippines Refugee Processing Center (PRPC) and in the Regional Resettlement Transit Center (RRTC) which are located in Morong, Bataan district, on Luzon Island. The Philippine Refugee Transit Center (PRTC) in Manila provides accommodation to refugees prior to their departure to third countries and to candidates for voluntary repatriation to Viet Nam. These three centres are administered by the Philippine authorities with UNHCR funds. The non-Indo-Chinese refugees and asylum-seekers live mainly in Manila.

2.8.3 The Indo-Chinese population in the Palawan camp decreased in 1992 by 21 per cent, compared to the population of 7,068 persons at the end of 1991, following the continuing implementation of resettlement and voluntary repatriation programmes. No new arrivals were registered in 1992. Approximately 40 per cent of the population is composed of women, while 26 per cent are children below the age of 18 (1,458), of whom 301 are unaccompanied minors. At the end of March 1993, a total of 4,768 asylum-seekers were hosted in the Puerto Princesa camp. During 1992, a monthly average of 2,127 refugees and 8,869 Vietnamese participating in ODP transited in Bataan.

Major developments (1992 and first quarter 1993)

2.8.4 As initial screening for determination of refugee status of Indo-Chinese asylum-seekers was completed in 1991, emphasis was laid in 1992 on the appeals process. By the end of the year, 1,168 appeals had been considered. The Appeals Board did not meet from August 1992 to February 1993

but, following the resumption of its meetings, it is likely that all appeals will be considered before the end of 1993.

2.8.5 In December 1992, a group of Vietnamese asylum-seekers in the Palawan camp organized a hunger strike and demonstrations questioning the fairness of the refugee-status-determination interview process and requesting new interviews. An uneasy peace was subsequently arranged with the help of church officials. A crisis management plan has been established to deal with a reoccurence of such incidents and avoid any use of force.

2.8.6 In March 1993, a mission team from UNHCR Headquarters, which included an expert consultant, assessed the integration of People-Oriented Planning (POP) concepts into the UNHCR programme in the Philippines. The mission found that UNHCR staff and its implementing partners were sensitive to the needs of women and children and aware that refugee situations affect women and children differently. As programme activities have been designed to take their needs into account, the mission did not identify any gaps in the assistance being provided. UNHCR and its implementing partners have ensured that programme activities are sufficiently responsive to the special needs of women, children, the elderly and the handicapped.

Programme objectives and priorities

2.8.7 UNHCR will continue to provide assistance to refugees and asylum-seekers awaiting durable solutions and to the Vietnamese in transit in the Philippines prior to their departure to the United States of America (ODP cases), by maintaining appropriate standards of nutrition, health care, shelter, social services and education in an efficient and cost-effective manner. UNHCR and its implementing partners will tailor the assistance programme to address the needs of Vietnamese asylum-seekers, on Palawan according to the implementation of the voluntary repatriation programme.

2.8.8 UNHCR, as well as non-governmental organization (NGO) and Government staff dealing with asylum-seekers, will be trained in crisis management to prevent or mitigate emergencies arising from tensions in the camp.

2.8.9 In conjunction with the competent authorities, preparations are proceeding for implementation of the family reunification operation for unaccompanied minors for whom it has been decided that return to Viet Nam is in their best interest, to ensure that these children return home as soon as possible.

Arrangements for implementation/related inputs

2.8.10 The Western Command of the Armed Forces (WESCOM) is UNHCR's main implementing partner on Palawan. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is implementing the health sector in Palawan and arranging travel and medical examinations in Manila and Bataan for refugees being

resettled to third countries and for asylum-seekers opting for voluntary repatriation to Viet Nam. Refugee Services Philippines (RSP) is seconding staff to UNHCR to assist in overall project implementation. The Center for Assistance to Displaced Persons (CADP) and the Holy Trinity College (HTC) implemented education activities in PFAC in 1992. UNHCR will fund this sector only for the first six months of 1993, after which the two agencies concerned will continue to implement education activities with their own funds. The International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) is implementing a project in the Palawan camp promoting voluntary repatriation through information campaigns on developments in Viet Nam. The PRPC, RRTC and PRTC are administered by the Philippines Government Task Force on International Refugee Assistance and Administration (TFIRAA) with whom UNHCR entered into agreements. Other agencies, such as Community and Family Services International (CFSI), World Relief Corporation (WRC), the Philippines Red Cross (PRC) and International Social Services (ISS), are implementing specific activities in Bataan under UNHCR coordination. The World Food Programme (WFP) provided basic food commodities including rice, vegetable oil, sugar and beans in 1992 and is expected to continue this assistance in 1993 and 1994.

General Programmes

Care and Maintenance

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.8.11 UNHCR has provided care and maintenance assistance to Vietnamese refugees on Palawan awaiting transfer to Bataan, including food, domestic items, water supply, sanitation facilities, health care, shelter, social services and education. Transport of food and non-food items as well as agency operational support were also funded by UNHCR. For the non-Indo-Chinese refugees and asylum-seekers living in Manila, subsistence allowances covering food, rent, health care and education were disbursed at appropriate rates.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.8.12 UNHCR will continue to provide care and maintenance assistance to Vietnamese refugees awaiting transfer to Bataan, where resettlement processing takes place. An allocation of $ 81,800 will cover the implementation of the above-mentioned activities. In addition, the initial allocation for the non-Indo-Chinese refugees and asylum-seekers of $ 343,500 has been increased to $ 388,500. The increase is due to an extension of the assistance period, as the previous assumption that this caseload could be integrated in the Philippines in 1993 proved incorrect. UNHCR is continuing

to discuss with the Philippine authorities the issue of legal access of the non-Indo-Chinese refugees to the labour market.

2.8.13 Assistance for the Indo-Chinese asylum-seekers will continue to be covered by funds under the Special Programmes, within the framework of the Comprehensive Plan of Action for Indo-Chinese Refugees (CPA).

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.8.14 As a result of the completion of refugee status determination procedures before the end of 1993, only Vietnamese asylum-seekers denied refugee status will remain in Palawan in 1994. Thus, an allocation of $ 373,900 is required only for care and maintenance assistance for non-Indo-Chinese refugees under the Annual Programme in 1994.

2.8.15 The sectoral breakdown for the initial and revised 1993, and proposed 1994 care and maintenance allocations under the UNHCR Annual Programme is as follows in (US dollars):

Sector	Initial 1993	Revised 1993	Initial 1994
Food	11,960	19,660	0
Transport	6,215	5,403	197
Domestic items	229,950	262,750	250,776
Water	1,020	1,020	0
Sanitation	2,565	2,565	0
Health	70,010	63,636	51,097
Shelter	6,880	6,880	0
Community services	305	305	0
Education	9,475	8,539	1,890
Legal assistance	4,205	4,024	880
Agency op. support	75,015	95,518	69,060
Project personnel	36,300	31,500	33,900
Total	$ 453,900	$ 501,800	$ 407,800

Resettlement

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.8.16 While in transit in Bataan (RRTC/PRPC) or in Manila (PRTC) prior to departure to resettlement countries, refugees received assistance such as food, domestic items, water, sanitation facilities, health care, shelter, social services, primary education and vocational training.

2.8.17 In 1992 a total of 3,344 refugees, of whom 1,771 transited in Bataan from Hong Kong, were resettled to the following countries: Australia (306),

Belgium (2), Canada (1,135), Denmark (66), France (59), Germany (8), Japan (29), the Netherlands (159), Norway (15), Sweden (852), Switzerland (125), the United Kingdom (7) and United States (581). An additional 641 refugees were resettled during the first three months of 1993.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.8.18 UNHCR will continue to provide assistance to the Vietnamese refugees in Bataan while the resettlement procedures are under way. The initial allocation of $ 5,606,400 has been reduced to $ 3,964,100 following a revision of the estimated average number of beneficiaries, which is now 2,500. This revision also led to a decrease in the budget for agency operational support, including a reduction in the number of implementing agency staff.

2.8.19 In 1992 it was noted that construction of PRPC and RRTC in Bataan had a high impact on the environment. Without the previously abundant tree cover around the camps, the sites are no longer naturally protected from devastation by strong typhoons. In this regard, funds are provided to purchase tree seedlings which will be planted on 42 ha. of open space surrounding the camps.

2.8.20 Travel costs and related expenses for resettlement are covered by the Other Countries in Asia (OCA) project if not met by the receiving countries.

2.8.21 The assistance for Vietnamese transiting in the Philippines under ODP to the United States will continue to be covered by funds under a Special Programmes allocation within the framework of the CPA.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.8.22 It is estimated that some 1,000 Vietnamese refugees will receive assistance while awaiting resettlement to third countries. Initial requirements are estimated at $ 1,054,600.

2.8.23 The sectoral breakdown for the initial and revised 1993 and the proposed 1994 resettlement allocations under the UNHCR Annual Programme is as follows (in US dollars):

Sector	Initial 1993	Revised 1993	Initial 1994
Food	2,459,535	1,186,440	217,992
Transport	139,310	239,346	94,646
Domestic needs	442,565	214,243	41,985
Water	62,455	55,790	15,670
Sanitation	84,000	82,569	19,150
Health	782,085	648,960	147,673
Shelter	441,880	398,930	98,285
Community services	359,000	388,410	87,195
Education	127,600	101,832	18,425
Forestry	0	19,970	0
Legal assistance	40,725	43,300	10,424
Agency op. support	450,745	397,010	104,855
Project personnel	216,500	187,300	198,300
Total	$ 5,606,400	$ 3,964,100	$ 1,054,600

Special Programmes

Comprehensive Plan of Action for Indo-Chinese Refugees (CPA)

Care and Maintenance

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.8.24 Care and maintenance assistance was provided to Vietnamese asylum-seekers awaiting the results of the screening process or, if already screened-out, awaiting durable solutions under the CPA. The asylum-seekers received multi-sectoral assistance including food, domestic items, water, sanitation facilities, health care, shelter, social services and education. Transport of food and non-food items as well as agency operational support were also funded by UNHCR. The costs relating to the refugee status determination procedure were also covered.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.8.25 UNHCR will continue to assist Indo-Chinese asylum-seekers in Palawan, although an adjustment of the assistance programme is under way given the reduced number of beneficiaries (an average of 3,500 throughout the year) and the fact that, following the completion of the refugee status determination procedure, only rejected asylum-seekers are likely to reside in the camp during the last quarter of the year. As already stated above, UNHCR funding of primary and secondary education will be phased out at the end of the first semester of 1993, a decision based on the fact that the two

implementing partners involved in this sector (HTC and CADP) will cover primary education with their own funds. Health activities will also be reviewed throughout the year with the aim of adapting the present structure, which was conceived for a higher camp population, to a population of 3,500. Because of the above, the initial allocation of $ 1,076,800 has been reduced to $ 1,046,835 including $ 111,224 for implementation of the refugee status determination procedure. It should be noted that part of the reduction was absorbed by provisions for separation benefits and by an increase in the cost of food procured locally. A water survey will also be carried out because of the increasing salinity of the present water sources owing to their proximity to the sea.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.8.26 UNHCR will continue to provide care and maintenance assistance to an estimated 2,500 rejected Vietnamese asylum-seekers in Palawan awaiting durable solutions under the CPA. The initial requirements for 1994 amount to $ 575,461.

2.8.27 The sectoral breakdown for the initial and revised 1993 and the proposed 1994 care and maintenance allocations under Special Programmes is as follows (in US dollars):

Sector	Initial 1993	Revised 1993	Initial 1994
Food	226,115	277,453	171,777
Transport	57,670	28,171	23,952
Domestic items	50,631	28,633	17,126
Water	11,825	20,697	10,021
Sanitation	29,532	17,048	30,490
Health	144,235	192,620	53,312
Shelter	79,163	57,951	82,290
Community services	3,536	4,498	3,726
Education	74,316	71,221	0
Legal assistance	170,233	141,501	59,848
Agency op. support	229,544	207,042	122,918
Total	$ 1,076,80	$ 1,046,835	$ 575,460

Voluntary Repatriation

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.8.28 Though particular attention was paid to implementation of the voluntary repatriation programme, the number of returnees was very low; in 1992 only 130 asylum-seekers opted to return to Viet Nam and 30 left during the first three months of 1993.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.8.29 Efforts will continue in the camp in 1993 to promote voluntary repatriation. ICMC is moving its sensitization and micro-business training programme from Manila to Palawan in order to inform the camp residents more effectively about the present situation in Viet Nam and generate greater interest in returning home. The initial allocation of $ 195,400 has been reduced to $ 184,200 following a more careful assessment of costs.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.8.30 Promotion of voluntary repatriation will continue in 1994 vis-à-vis an estimated 2,500 rejected asylum-seekers. Initial requirements are estimated at $ 131,934.

Resettlement

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.8.31 The Philippine Refugee Processing Center (PRPC) has hosted a monthly average of 8,869 Vietnamese who left their country of origin with official authorization under ODP. During their six-to-eight month stay in the camp, the Vietnamese participate in an intensive programme of language training and cultural orientation designed to prepare them for easier integration in their resettlement countries. Training activities were completely funded by the United States and Norway. Throughout the year, a total of 18,576 persons were resettled to the United States and 348 to Norway. Norway phased out its project in February 1993.

2.8.32 While attending the training, the Vietnamese received UNHCR-funded assistance including food, domestic needs, water, sanitation facilities, health, shelter, social services and education.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.8.33 UNHCR will continue to provide assistance to Vietnamese attending training in Bataan prior to their departure to the United States. The initial allocation of $ 3,019,600 has been reduced to $ 2,107,009 following a careful reassessment of needs.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.8.34 For a monthly estimated number of 5,000 Vietnamese awaiting departure to the United States, initial requirements amount to $ 4,281,136.

2.8.35 The sectoral breakdown for the initial and revised 1993 and the proposed 1994 resettlement allocations under Special Programmes is as follows (in US dollars):

Sector	Initial 1993	Revised 1993	Initial 1994
Food	1,088,923	638,843	1,089,962
Transport	265,288	202,241	473,231
Domestic needs	242,598	115,362	209,904
Water	38,626	30,039	78,332
Sanitation	44,836	44,460	95,751
Health	472,063	349,468	738,054
Shelter	256,038	214,809	491,424
Community services	216,008	209,141	435,977
Education	111,705	54,833	92,104
Forestry	0	10,746	0
Legal assistance	27,631	23,306	52,122
Agency op. support	255,886	213,762	524,276
Total	$ 3,019,602	$ 2,107,010	$ 4,281,137

In 1994, the Vietnamese receiving assistance under ODP will represent 84 per cent of the assisted population in Bataan. This explains the budget increase under Special Programmes, which is offset by a proportional budget decrease under General Programmes.

Project Personnel Expenditure (PPE)/Programme Support and Administration (PSA)

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) major developments

2.8.36 In order to improve security and increase office and storage space, the UNHCR Branch Office in the Philippines explored the possibility of moving into new premises during the course of 1992. Options considered included sharing space with other United Nations organizations present in Manila but no reasonably priced alternative could be found. Efforts will continue in 1993 to identify office accommodation, again including the possibility of sharing premises with other United Nations agencies.

2.8.37 To improve the security of UNHCR staff members and office premises, additional guards were hired for the Branch Office in Manila and for the Field Office in Bataan. In addition, UNHCR shared, with other United Nations agencies in the Philippines, the costs of a Security Liaison Officer, an arrangement which will continue in 1993.

2.8.38 The staffing level remained relatively stable in 1992. A National Officer post had been created in late 1991 to provide a full-time UNHCR presence in the PRTC because a significant increase in the number of voluntary returnees was anticipated. This increase did not occur, and the post was not filled.

2.8.39 Administrative expenditure, which totaled $ 1,095,062 under General and Special Programmes in 1992, was lower than projected. The primary reason for the savings was that expenditure for salary and staff costs was lower than expected due to unanticipated delays in filling vacant posts.

2.8.40 Additional security guards were authorized at the end of 1992 for the Field Office in Palawan and for the residences of UNHCR staff members as a result of a deterioration in the security situation following demonstrations by asylum-seekers. Arrangements for additional security guards have been maintained in 1993, although this arrangement is being reviewed on a periodic basis both by UNHCR and the United Nations Security Liaison Officer.

b) 1993 Revised estimates

2.8.41 The revised estimate for adminstrative expenditure under General and Special Programmes for 1993 is slightly higher than the 1992 revised estimate due to increases under travel to allow for more frequent missions to and from Manila, and under general operating expenses due to increases in rent, utilities and security costs. In the event that suitable new premises are identified in 1993, it may be necessary to increase the allocation for administrative expenditure to allow for removal and installation costs.

2.8.42 The staffing level is projected to remain the same as in 1992; however, it will be subject to review on the basis of progress achieved in finding durable solutions for the refugee and asylum-seeker population. This review will include a mission from UNHCR Headquarters in the second half of 1993.

c) 1994 Initial estimates

2.8.43 The initial projection for administrative expenditure under General and Special Programmes has been reduced by $ 178,200 when compared to the revised estimate for 1993 mainly due to the planned reduction in consultancies for refugee status determination procedures.

UNHCR EXPENDITURE IN THE PHILIPPINES

(in thousands of United States dollars)

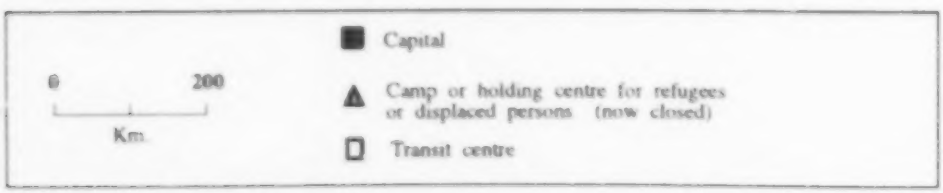
1992	1993		1994	
AMOUNT OBLIGATED	ALLOCATION APPROVED BY 1992 EXCOM	PROPOSED REVISED ALLOCATION	SOURCE OF FUNDS AND TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	PROPOSED ALLOCATION/ PROJECTION
GENERAL PROGRAMMES (1)				
484.5	453.9	501.8	CARE AND MAINTENANCE Care and maintenance of refugees including subsistence allowances to non-Indochinese refugees pending a durable solution	407.8
3.8 a/	–	–	VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION	–
382.7 b/	–	–	LOCAL SETTLEMENT	–
5,768.9	5,606.4	3,964.1	RESETTLEMENT Care and maintenance of Indochinese RPC and RTC cases including language and cultural orientation programmes	1,054.6
281.4	339.0	349.6	PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN. See Annexes I and II	362.6
6,921.3	6,399.3	4,815.5	Sub-total (1)	1,825.0
SPECIAL PROGRAMMES (2)				
13.1	–	–	OTHER TRUST FUNDS	–
106.0	71.0	87.8	PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN. Junior Professional Officer	87.8
5,084.8	3,800.0	4,023.3	COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF ACTION	5,466.6
5,203.9	3,871.0	4,111.1	Sub-total (2)	5,554.4
12,125.2	**10,270.3**	**8,926.6**	**GRAND TOTAL (1+2)**	7,379.4

a/ obligation incurred against Overall Allocation

b/ of which US$ 959 incurred against Overall Allocation

THAILAND

Area	514,000 sq. km.
Estimated Population	57,760,000 (1992)
Population density	112.4 per sq. km. (approx.)
Rainy season	May - October



2.9 THAILAND

Country Overview

Characteristics of the refugee population

2.9.1 At 31 December 1992, the total number of Indo-Chinese refugees and asylum-seekers assisted by UNHCR stood at 63,625, marking a 26 per cent reduction compared to the 85,981 assisted by UNHCR at the end of 1991. This total comprised 40,871 Lao, 7,128 Cambodians, 12,649 Vietnamese and 2,977 non-Indo-Chinese.

2.9.2 At the beginning of 1992, Thailand also hosted a refugee population of 378,906 Cambodians sheltered in six camps on the Thai-Cambodian border assisted by the United Nations Border Relief Operation (UNBRO), whose voluntary repatriation by UNHCR commenced on 30 March 1992 and was completed during the first quarter of 1993.

2.9.3 During 1992, 4,941 Lao (Highlanders) who were previously unregistered had their status regularized. Some 2,638 persons were subsequently accepted as refugees and 2,303 were rejected. Additionally, 7,590 Lao refugees were resettled to third countries and 3,036 repatriated to the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

2.9.4 In 1992, 2,302 Vietnamese asylum-seekers arrived in Thailand (of whom only 10 arrived by boat and the rest overland via Cambodia) and were admitted into the procedure for determination of refugee status. Meanwhile, 760 Vietnamese departed for resettlement to third countries and 2,719 repatriated to Viet Nam.

2.9.5 Women comprise 23 per cent of the UNHCR-assisted population while 49 per cent are children below 17 years of age.

2.9.6 All the Lao refugees and asylum-seekers are accommodated in Ban Vinai, Chiang Kham and Ban Napho. The Vietnamese refugees and asylum-seekers are sheltered in Sikhiu and Phanat Nikom camps, while the UNHCR-assisted Cambodians are accommodated in Khao I Dang. The UNBRO-assisted Cambodians were accommodated in six camps located on the Thai/Cambodian border in Site K, Sok Sann, Site 8, Site 2, Site B and O'Trao. Most of the non-Indo-Chinese refugees are living in the Bangkok metropolitan area.

Major developments (1992 and first quarter 1993)

2.9.7 The overall refugee population in Thailand in 1992 decreased as a result of fewer new arrivals, renewed interest in voluntary repatriation programmes to the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam, the

commencement of the mass voluntary repatriation operation to Cambodia as well as a sustained effort towards resettlement.

2.9.8 Physical preparations for voluntary repatriation to Cambodia initiated during 1991 continued through 1992. In January 1992, thanks to a bilateral contribution, the Royal Thai Army completed the construction of a detour corridor at the Klong-Luk border-crossing point. In January and February 1992, UNHCR intensified the information campaign designed to disseminate relevant information to the camp populations. The information campaign was combined with two other crucial components, a "Mine-Awareness Campaign" and a "Human Rights Information Campaign", both funded by the Office of the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for the Coordination of the Humanitarian Assistance Programme for Cambodians and implemented by UNBRO. In the meantime UNBRO and the non-governmental organisation (NGO) Christian Outreach, completed the construction of four "staging areas" adjacent to the main camps intended to ensure the voluntariness of choice of the prospective returnees as well as to facilitate the logistics of processing the returnees and their belongings. The Cambodian voluntary repatriation operation commenced on 30 March 1992 with a first bus convoy transporting 527 persons from various camps in Thailand to the Sisophon Reception Centre. The operation was completed by the end of March 1993 and a total of 363,061 Cambodians were repatriated from Thailand in 456 convoys involving 7,536 buses and 4,900 trucks.

2.9.9 The successful conclusion of the voluntary repatriation operation permitted the closure of the following refugee camps:

Sok San and Site K:	2 October 1992
O'Trao:	19 October 1992
Site B:	14 December 1992
Site 8:	22 January 1993
Khao-I-Dang:	3 March 1993
Site 2:	30 March 1993

2.9.10 The repatriation operation, while successful, was fraught with problems and difficulties. In early April 1992, a fire broke out in Site B leaving more than 5,000 persons shelterless and causing more than $ 100,000 worth of damage. In June 1992, following rumours attributing higher voluntary repatriation assistance to Vietnamese returnees, part of the Site 2 camp population demanded an increase in voluntary repatriation cash assistance. The protest quickly turned violent, resulting in the temporary evacuation of all relief personnel from the camp and the interruption of all services for a few days. This violent demonstration was followed a few weeks later by an outbreak of cholera. During the period under review, several instances of banditry-related security incidents were also reported in and around the Khao-I-Dang and Site 2 perimeters. Notwithstanding the seriousness of the above mentioned incidents, the operation was able to proceed according to plan.

2.9.11 Within the framework of the Comprehensive Plan of Action for Indo-Chinese Refugees (CPA), the task force created under the aegis of the Ministry of Interior (MOI) completed 90 per cent of the first-instance decisions by the end of 1992 and the results were announced to the concerned Lao and Vietnamese asylum-seekers.

2.9.12 Efforts continued to strenghten the individual counselling of asylum-seekers who have been determined not to be refugees in order to encourage them to return home voluntarily. The Royal Thai Government, UNHCR and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam continued to devote their efforts to resolving the issue of unaccompanied minors and vulnerable individuals through the application of "Special Procedures". By the end of 1992, the majority of the concerned individuals had been processed, and some 500 persons had benefited from these procedures originally introduced at the inception of the CPA.

2.9.13 In early September 1992, UNHCR undertook à series of consultations with the Royal Thai Government and Bangkok-based embassies of resettlement countries with a view to resolving the long-standing issue of a group of Vietnamese asylum-seekers whose nationality, date of arrival in the country of asylum and legal status needed to be clarified prior to determining the most appropriate durable solution. This group of approximately 1,000 persons referred to as the "Platform Group" was located in Site 2.

2.9.14 The implementation of refugee status determination procedures for some 5,000 Highland Lao asylum-seekers, formerly referred to as the "unauthorized" residents in Ban Vinai camp, was completed during the first half of 1992. A total of 2,638 were recognized as refugees and 2,303 were determined not to be refugees. By the end of 1992, more than 50 per cent of this latter group had applied for voluntary repatriation.

2.9.15 On 13 and 14 July 1992, a fifth tripartite meeting took place in Rayong (Thailand) between the Royal Thai Government, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and UNHCR, during which a joint communiqué was issued by the concerned parties who reaffirmed their intention to reinforce further their willingness to cooperate. The meeting also adopted a time frame for the closure of refugee camps on the Thai border: Ban Vinai by the end of 1992 and Chiangkham by the end of 1993. In September 1992 the transfer of the Ban Vinai residents commenced. Those residents wishing to resettle in a third country were transferred to Phanat Nikhom for onward processing and those wishing to repatriate to the Lao People's Democratic Republic were transferred to Ban Napho pending repatriation. Ban Vinai camp closed on 9 December 1992 as planned. Prior to the fifth tripartite meeting, the status of the Ban Napho camp was changed from a "refugee holding centre" to a "voluntary repatriation processing centre", thereby reaffirming the intention of the Royal Thai Government and UNHCR to reinforce further the idea that voluntary repatriation was the most viable option available to the remaining asylum-seekers.

2.9.16 To bolster the refugee status determination process, UNHCR organized two workshops during 1992 involving Royal Thai Government officials (one for Lao and one for Vietnamese refugee status determination procedures).

2.9.17 In January 1992, the Royal Thai Government officially announced its intention to set-up a "Safe Area" designed to shelter refugees from Myanmar pending the attainment of an appropriate durable solution. This offer was received with strong reservations on the part of those concerned. In February 1992, an additional 3,000 Myanmar sought refuge in Thailand. The total number of displaced persons from Myanmar on the Thai side of the border is estimated at around 72,000. Most receive assistance from a consortium of NGOs. UNHCR involvement with this population is limited to its traditional protection role.

Programme objectives and priorities

2.9.18 Given the implementation of the Paris Peace Accords in Cambodia under the auspices of the United Nations and the timely completion of the voluntary repatriation, it is anticipated that assistance programmes for Cambodian refugees in Thailand will be phased out by the end of 1993.

2.9.19 It is also anticipated that resettlement, combined with a sustained effort to promote voluntary repatriation, will further reduce the number of beneficiaries for whom care and maintenance will still be needed.

2.9.20 A care and maintenance programme will need to be maintained for Myanmar refugees during 1993.

Arrangements for implementation/related inputs

2.9.21 MOI is UNHCR's main implementing partner for the delivery of assistance to Lao and Vietnamese refugees and asylum-seekers. MOI will further delegate implementation of certain sectors of assistance to the following NGOs: Catholic Office for Emergency Relief and Refugees, Ecoles Sans Frontières, Foundation In Support of Refugee Assistance Programmes In Thailand (FISRAPT), Handicap International, International Rescue Committee (IRC), Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF France), Montfort Catholic Mission, Save the Children (US) and the Thai Red Cross Society. Additionally, the cooperation of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) was also enlisted in the implementation of the resettlement-related pre-departure activities.

2.9.22 The Supreme Command of the Royal Thai Armed Forces is the main implementing partner for UNHCR-funded assistance to Cambodian refugees. A sizeable number of NGOs played an important role in providing assistance and other services from funds provided by UNHCR and/or their own resources. Whenever possible, UNHCR enlisted the cooperation and assistance of other United Nations agencies/programmes and operations, particularly UNBRO.

2.9.23 Some 13,057 mt of rice valued at $ 4,290,000 and 137 mt of cooking oil valued at $ 146,000 were made available by the European Community (EC). As a result of reduced camp populations in 1993, it is anticipated that EC will make available reduced quantities of these food supplies.

General Programmes

Care and Maintenance

a) 1992-1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.9.24 During the period under review, efforts continued to implement activities targeted specifically at women. These included supporting day-care centres to enable women to work or attend classes and encouraging greater involvement in community activities through the formation of women's sub-committees or associations. These associations have been active in identifying women's skills-training preferences and running programmes whose principal beneficiaries are women. Integrated parent-child care and nutritional education, as well as concerted efforts to increase student attendance, particularly of females, are examples of efforts to target assistance to children. A major development was the identification of extremely vulnerable refugees whose special needs require specific attention during and after their repatriation.

2.9.25 In line with the Royal Thai Government's stated policy to close Ban Vinai by the end of 1992, all refugees and asylum-seekers were transferred to either Phanat Nikhom or Ban Napho. The camp was officially closed on 9 December 1992.

2.9.26 A significant breakthrough was achieved with the successful resolution of two major outstanding issues: the prices of food commodities were adjusted in parity with the commercial price index; and food contracts were established for one year in order to coincide with the UNHCR programme cycle. All these improvements were made possible as a result of the Royal Thai Government's desire to improve procurement procedures.

2.9.27 Considerable savings were achieved in the food sector following a joint Royal Thai Government/UNHCR review carried out in late 1991, which resulted in the modification of the food basket adopted in April 1992. Savings were also generated from the rationalization of supplementary feeding procedures at the camp level.

2.9.28 Notable progress was achieved in 1992 in the modification and adoption of Lao and Vietnamese primary-school curricula to match those of the country of origin. In the Lao camps, teachers were encouraged to and have assumed greater responsibility for self-management of school programmes.

2.9.29 Greater emphasis has been laid on training social counsellors and para-social workers in community organization and community-development techniques. The ultimate aim was to strengthen the ability of refugees to deal more effectively with the needs of their own communities, following repatriation.

2.9.30 The Royal Thai Governement authorities have limited the flow of foreign currency remittances from abroad to the minimum-wage level.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.9.31 The initial 1993 appropriation did not foresee the following activities which need to be implemented:

a) Rehabilitation of the vacated camp site of Ban Vinai which, owing to time constraints, could not be covered under the 1992 appropriation.

b) Completion of the Thai nationality verification exercise for an estimated 800 Highlanders claiming to be of Thai origin. It is foreseen that if the verification yields positive results, the intended beneficiaries could possibly be released from the camps and settled in Thailand.

c) Construction of a water-filtration plant and emergency measures to truck water into Sikhiu camp to improve overall water supply.

d) Financial support to the Thai Red Cross Society to streamline the system of mail and foreign-remittance distribution in Sikhiu camp.

e) Separation benefits of long-serving project personnel employed by FISRAPT.

These additional financial requirements have been offset in part by substantial savings obtained from the reduction of the food allocation. Additional savings were obtained as a result of increased refugee management of education programmes in Ban Napho camp. Savings were also identified in the project for non-Indo-Chinese, mainly due to a slight reduction in the average number of beneficiaries.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.9.32 The proposed allocation for 1994 is based on a lower planning figure of Indo-Chinese refugees and asylum-seekers (the average number of beneficiaries is estimated to be around 40,000 persons) and the inclusion of

an allocation of some $ 4.5 million to cater to the needs of an estimated 3,000 individual refugees living in urban areas.

2.9.33 No appopriation for "Resettlement" is requested as this activitiy is incorporated in the care and maintenance appropriation.

2.9.34 The sectoral breakdown for the initial and revised 1993 and the proposed 1994 care and maintenance allocations is as follows (in US dollars):

Sector	Initial 1993	Revised 1993	Initial 1994
Food	1,182,575	1,041,793	900,413
Transport	233,586	214,840	190,233
Domestic needs	4,022,076	3,584,760	3,517,816
Water	78,354	114,121	73,230
Sanitation	239,027	193,603	139,034
Health	663,369	682,023	552,896
Shelter	381,309	375,390	295,452
Community services	66,939	110,912	105,327
Education	148,966	176,309	164,576
Legal assistance	29,300	59,269	310,233
Agency op. support	694,999	801,180	639,790
Project personel	1,397,100	1,009,500	1,078,300
Total	$ 9,137,600	$ 8,363,700	$ 7,967,300

Resettlement

2.9.35 An appropriation is included in 1993 in order to maintain a comprehensive data base for all refugees and asylum-seekers in Thailand. In 1994, this type of assistance will be included within the care and maintenance appropriation.

Special Programmes

Comprehensive Plan of Action for Indo-Chinese Refugees (CPA)

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.9.36 During 1992, efforts were made to pursue the implementation of the CPA. A fifth tripartite meeting involving the Governments of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Thailand, and UNHCR, was held in August 1992 in Rayong (Thailand) after which a joint communiqué was released which reaffirmed the principles contained in the CPA and outlined a tentative

timeframe for the acceleration of the repatriation of Lao as well as for camp closure. The pace of return to the Lao People's Democratic Republic was hindered somewhat by difficulties encountered in the planning/identification of sites for group settlement.

2.9.37 In December 1992, Ban Vinai, one of the oldest refugee camps in Thailand, was closed. Refugees in the camp were given two options: resettlement or voluntary repatriation. Some 9,250 persons chose resettlement and were moved to Phanat Nikhom for resettlement processing. Additionally, 3,000 persons were transferred to Ban Napho for eventual voluntary repatriation. In 1992, a total of 7,590 persons departed for third country resettlement while 3,036 persons returned voluntarily to the Lao People's Democratic Republic. A total of 322 asylum-seekers were admitted to the screening procedure for refugee status determination.

2.9.38 The first phase of the "Outline of the Plan for a Phased Repatriation and Reintegration of Laotians from Thailand to Lao P.D.R." ended in June 1992. At that same date some 31 per cent of the planned repatriation target of 6,000 had been achieved with the repatriation of 1,882 persons. The low rate is due to several reasons, notably slow approval procedures. During the first phase, a group of 208 persons returned under the group settlement scheme to a site in Savannakhet Province. During the first six months of the second phase of the Plan, a total of 1,674 persons returned. The target for the second phase is set at 6,000-10,000. It should be noted that, as of 31 December 1992, some 3,300 applications to repatriate were pending approval. A second group of some 210 Lowland Lao have begun to return to a settlement site in Khammouane province.

2.9.39 At 31 December 1992, the Vietnamese population stood at 12,649, of whom 54 were of pre-cut-off-date caseload and thus not subject to refugee status determination procedures, while 12,595 were post-cut-off-date (not including the land Vietnamese asylum-seekers on the Cambodian border who were subsequently transferred to Phanat Nikhom during the first quarter of 1993). Out of the 12,649, there were 1,317 refugees (54 pre-cut-off-date and 1,263 post-cut-off-date) and 11,332 asylum-seekers/persons determined not to be refugees. Of the total number, 2,894 were land Vietnamese and 9,755 were boat people. Only 10 persons arrived by boat during 1992, which is a sharp decrease compared to 1991 when arrivals totalled 202. The majority of the Vietnamese (7,982) were in Sikhiu which shelters only asylum-seekers/persons determined not to be refugees, whereas Phanat Nikhom accommodated 4,667 Vietnamese who were undergoing pre-departure formalities prior to repatriation or resettlement. Some were waiting for transfer to Sikhiu for finalization of their refugee status determination procedure.

2.9.40 The pace of voluntary repatriation remained steady. A total of 2,719 Vietnamese repatriated in 1992 bringing the total to 5,592 since the inception of the CPA. At 31 December 1992, an additional 1,050 were awaiting interviews in Phanat Nikhom; 500 were awaiting the issuance of

laissez-passers and an additional 800 had expressed an interest in the voluntary repatriation programme. As far as procedures are concerned, considerable progress was achieved through regular visits to Thailand by Socialist Republic of Viet Nam Consular Teams and interviews on a priority basis of all vulnerable cases (i.e. unaccompanied minors, survivors of violence, etc.). However, towards the end of 1992 these visits, although frequent, were insufficient to cope with the ever-increasing number of applicants. A backlog of voluntary repatriation candidates awaiting interviews began to rise. Monitoring reports by UNHCR personnel in the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, as well as visits to all returnees allegedly persecuted on return, proved to be very useful in promoting voluntary repatriation. These rumours of persecution proved to be unfounded. Promotion and counselling on the expansion of EC programmes in Viet Nam were conducted on several occasions by EC personnel in both camps. UNHCR provided information on EC programmes on a regular basis. UNHCR also started a similar approach for the Nordic Assistance to Returnees in Viet Nam (NARV) programme for returning unaccompanied minors.

2.9.41 A total of 760 Vietnamese refugees departed to various resettlement countries, of whom 98 belonged to the pre-cut-off-date caseload and 662 screened post-cut-off-date. Of the total 760 resettlement departures, 608 were boat people whereas 152 were land Vietnamese. The embassies of Australia, Canada, France and the United States of America regularly visited Phanat Nikhom camp where Vietnamese refugees are being processed for resettlement.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.9.42 It is expected that most of the activities related to the status determination of Lao asylum-seekers will be considerably reduced during 1993 due to the expected lower number of asylum-seekers. UNHCR plans to restructure the status determination procedure to encourage the Royal Thai Government authorities to communicate decisions directly to the asylum-seekers. Moreover, asylum-seekers whose applications have been rejected in the first instance and who may wish to appeal against such a decision will be encouraged to do so directly to the competent Royal Thai Government authorities.

2.9.43 During 1993, efforts will be devoted to the completion of first instance refugee status determination for all Vietnamese asylum-seekers in Thailand. It is foreseen that all first-instance appeal interviews will be completed by the end of September 1993.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.9.44 In 1994, subject to the continuation of the present favourable conditions, the pace of return of all asylum-seekers who have been determined not to be refugees is expected to increase substantially.

Cambodia Voluntary Repatriation Operation

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) major developments

2.9.45 The Cambodia Voluntary Repatriation Operation comenced in 1992 and was completed by the end of March 1993 during which time 363,061 Cambodians were repatriated from Thailand. The programme was implemented according to schedule. Four "staging areas" were constructed to permit returnees to express their will freely as well as to complete all related logistical pre-departure formalities. During the operation, special attention was paid to vulnerable individuals to ensure that their special needs were met not only during the transport phase but more importantly upon their return to their home country.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.9.46 During the first quarter of 1993, the remaining Cambodians were repatriated, and assistance will be phased out by the end of the year. Were individual cases still to be in need of repatriation assistance beyond the closure of this project, this would be covered under the care and maintenance appropriation.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.9.47 As the voluntary repatriation operation will be completed during 1993, no allocation is foreseen for 1994.

Project Personnel Expenditure (PPE)/Programme Support and Administration (PSA)

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) major developments

2.9.48 UNHCR increased the number of international Professional and local General Service staff initial 1992 projections in order to meet the demands of organizing and carrying out the Cambodia Voluntary Repatriation Operation. This increase in staffing was of a temporary nature and linked to the operation, with the understanding that once completed the number of Professional and local staff members in Thailand would be reduced significantly. UNHCR Headquarters fielded a mission to Thailand in 1992 to review the Office's overall staffing requirements, which resulted in a series of recommendations on the appropriate staffing levels for 1992 and 1993. The over-expenditure on PSA was funded by a transfer between appropriations.

2.9.49 In order to improve the security of staff members and communications between Branch Office Bangkok and Field Offices in the provinces, a VHF radio telecommmunications network was installed which linked all offices in the country and enabled direct communication between Thailand and the telecommunications network in Cambodia.

2.9.50 Alteration and improvements of UNHCR Branch Office premises in Bangkok were also carried out in 1992. In addition, computer equipment and vehicles were purchased.

b) 1993 - Revised estimates

2.9.51 With the completion of the repatriation operation and continued progress in achieving durable solutions for the UNHCR-assisted Vietnamese and Lao populations, the number of internationally and locally-recruited staff members will be reduced in the middle of 1993. As a result, the 1993 revised estimate for administrative expenditure under General and Special Programmes is significantly lower than total expenditure in 1992. This reduced estimate incorporates associated reductions in the projected levels of expenditure for staff travel, general operating expenses, and the purchase and replacement of non-expendable property.

c) 1994 - Initial estimates

2.9.52 The initial projection for administrative expenditure under General and Special Programmes for 1994 is significantly lower than the 1993 revised estimate. This is primarily the result of the discontinuation of posts associated with the Cambodian repatriation in mid-1993 and the discontinuation of one Field Officer post in Chiang Kham after the camp closes at the end of 1993. Two National Officer posts and one local General Service post are projected for discontinuation at mid-year; however, the final decision on these posts will be taken early in 1994 after analysis of the progress achieved in phasing down UNHCR's assistance programmes in Thailand.

UNHCR EXPENDITURE IN THAILAND

(in thousands of United States dollars)

1992	1993		1994	
AMOUNT OBLIGATED	ALLOCATION APPROVED BY 1992 EXCOM	PROPOSED REVISED ALLOCATION	SOURCE OF FUNDS AND TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	PROPOSED ALLOCATION/ PROJECTION
GENERAL PROGRAMMES (1)				
11,243.6	9,137.6	8,363.7	CARE AND MAINTENANCE Care and maintenance of Indochinese refugees, including legal and social services and supplementary allowances to non-Indochinese refugees	7,967.3
2.3 a/	–	–	VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION	–
9.4 a/	–	–	LOCAL SETTLEMENT	–
982.4	727.1	669.7	RESETTLEMENT Travel and other resettlement related costs	–
1,431.3	1,147.6	1,100.1	PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN. See Annexes I and II	953.8
13,669.0	11,012.3	10,133.5	Sub-total (1)	8,921.1
SPECIAL PROGRAMMES (2)				
661.4	–	–	OTHER TRUST FUNDS Food/other items	86.2
156.1	85.0	179.8	PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN. Junior Professional Officer	179.8
6396.2	4750	3537.9	CAMBODIA REPATRIATION OPERATION	211.0
5,491.1	4,000.0	4,456.4	COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF ACTION	3,946.1
388.9	–	–	ANTI-PIRACY PROGRAMME	–
13,093.7	8,835.0	8,174.1	Sub-total (2)	4,423.1
26,762.7	**19,847.3**	**18,307.6**	**GRAND TOTAL (1+2)**	**13,344.2**

a/ obligations incurred against Overall Allocations

2.10 VIET NAM

Country Overview

Characteristics of the refugee population

2.10.1 According to Government estimates, the number of Camdodian refugees totalled 16,263 at the end of 1992. Of these, some 10,700 were accommodated in four rural settlement sites and assisted by UNHCR. A total of 965 persons departed for resettlement in 1992 and another 165 in the first four months of 1993, bringing the total number of departures since 1980 to 14,382. Some 2,000 Cambodian refugees left the rural settlement sites and integrated into local communities. The majority of the Cambodian refugees are of urban origin and approximately 18 per cent of those assisted by UNHCR are children under the age of 15.

2.10.2 A total of 64,253 Vietnamese nationals departed abroad under the Orderly Departure Programme (ODP) in 1992. Another 10,959 departed in the first four months of 1993, bringing the total number to 392,842 since 1980. Within the framework of the Comprehensive Plan of Action for Indo-Chinese Refugees (CPA), a total of 16,952 Vietnamese returned in 1992 and another 5,520 in the first five months of 1993, bringing the total number of returnees since 1989 to 41,801.

Major developments (1992 and first quarter 1993)

2.10.3 As of March 1992, the World Food Programme (WFP) took over from UNHCR the responsibility for providing food to the Cambodian refugees. WFP food assistance totalled $ 323,250 for a twelve-month period. Following the conclusion of the Paris Peace Agreement on Cambodia in October 1991, 577 Cambodians repatriated from Viet Nam towards the end of 1992.

2.10.4 UNHCR reintegration assistance aimed at facilitating the voluntary repatriation of returnees continued in 1992. In addition to individual cash grants, several micro-projects designed to promote self-sufficiency among returnees, generate employment and strengthen infrastructural and community welfare services were implemented in 1992. A new project providing assistance towards the repatriation and reintegration of unaccompanied minors in Viet Nam was implemented with a non-governmental organization (NGO) in the second half of 1992 and in 1993.

2.10.5 On 12 May 1992, the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the Government of the United Kingdom and Hong Kong signed an agreement for the return of non-refugee Vietnamese under an Orderly Return Programme (ORP II). Some 400 Vietnamese non-refugees were returned to Viet Nam in 1992

under this programme and a further group of some 180 was returned in the first four months of 1993.

Programme objectives and priorities

2.10.6 In 1993, UNHCR continues to search for durable solutions for the Cambodian refugees in Viet Nam mainly through voluntary repatriation, family reunification for those accepted by a third country and self-sufficiency and local settlement in Viet Nam for those who opt for it.

2.10.7 In accordance with the CPA, UNHCR is focusing on assistance towards promotion of voluntary repatriation of Vietnamese as well as measures to facilitate their reintegration into local communities. UNHCR continues to make every effort to speed up the return of unaccompanied minors for family reunification and undertakes monitoring visits to ensure the successful reintegration of returnees. In this respect, the number of repatriation officers will be increased in 1993. The UNHCR Branch Office in Hanoi will continue to liaise with the European Community (EC) and NGOs to secure assistance projects targeting the specific needs of unaccompanied minors, unemployed young people and the handicapped.

Arrangements for implementation/related inputs

2.10.8 The programme of assistance to the Cambodian refugees was implemented through the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs. The "Comité de Gestion des Réfugiés" in Ho Chi Minh City and the People's Committee of Song Be Province co-administered the project, the former for refugees located in local settlements in the Ho Chi Minh City administrative area and the latter for refugees located in Song Be Province.

2.10.9 The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Interior (Department of Immigration) and the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs are responsible for implementation of the Vietnamese Returnee Programme.

2.10.10 UNHCR reintegration assistance is further enhanced by the important EC International Reintegration Assistance Programme in Viet Nam which focuses on job creation, vocational training, micro-projects, health and the promotion of small enterprises, benefiting both returnees and local communities.

General Programmes

Local Settlement

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.10.11 UNHCR assistance to the Cambodian refugees in 1992 and 1993 took the form of household fuel/goods, medical care and general primary education. In addition, diesel, engine oil and petrol were provided. The handover to WFP of responsibility for providing food to the Cambodian refugees in March 1992 met no major problems.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.10.12 No revision is foreseen to the initial 1993 allocation. Assistance in the same form as in 1992 is provided for a smaller caseload of 8,000 as it is expected that part of the caseload will have found durable solutions. The UNHCR Branch Office in Hanoi will discuss with the Vietnamese Government the possibility of identifying durable solutions for the remaining caseload.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.10.13 The level of assistance in 1994 will be reduced since it is expected that durable solutions will have been identified as a result of discussions with the Government in 1993.

Resettlement

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.10.14 In 1992, a total of 965 Cambodian refugees were resettled abroad, mainly to Canada and the United States of America.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.10.15 No revision is foreseen in the initial 1993 allocation as the projected caseload for resettlement remains the same. The Cambodian refugees will continue to be resettled abroad.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.10.16 The level of assistance for 1994 will be the same as in 1993. Approximately 100 persons are expected to be resettled abroad.

Emergency Fund

a) 1993 programme implementation

2.10.17 Of some 35,000 ethnic Vietnamese who crossed from Cambodia into the southern provinces of Viet Nam in the first quarter of 1993, approximately 12,000 will receive assistance from UNHCR during the second half of the year. This one-time assistance amounting to $ 496,000 will cover activities in the water, sanitation, health, shelter and fisheries sectors in various inland districts and provinces.

Special Programmes

Comprehensive Plan of Action for Indo-Chinese Refugees (CPA)

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.10.18 In 1992, within the framework of the CPA, assistance aimed at facilitating and promoting voluntary repatriation was provided to returnees in the form of cash grants, shelter, and the provision of tools and equipment. UNHCR also provided assistance in the form of micro-projects to local communities receiving significant numbers of returnees. A total of 72 micro-projects amounting to $ 1,800,658 were implemented in 1992, targeting the specific needs of the entire population. These micro-projects targeted the sectors of health, education, agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries and infrastructure in communities, towns and districts receiving a large number of returnees. Vocational training programmes for returnees in Ben Tre/Hai Phong and Quang Ninh were implemented in 1992. A project aimed at facilitating the repatriation and reintegration of unaccompanied minors was implemented in 1992. The assistance provided was in the form of construction and upgrading of educational facilities, and provision of teaching equipment for primary and vocational education. Upon their return the minors receive counselling and, after a few months, are visited in their homes. Child-support consultants were hired to organize training workshops.

b) 1993 programme implementation

2.10.19 No revision is foreseen in the proposed 1993 allocation for returnees as the projected caseload remains the same as in 1992. Cash grants, shelter and the provision of tools and equipment continue to be distributed to returnees in 1993. Some 70 micro-projects are being planned for 1993 in the sectors of health, education, agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries and infrastructure in communities with a significant number of returnees. Vocational training projects as well as a project aimed at facilitating the repatriation and reintegration of unaccompanied minors will also be implemented in 1993.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.10.20 It is estimated that returnees in 1994 will number approximately 20,000. A sum of $ 11,018,700 is proposed to cover the same type of assistance as in 1993. As for the return and reintegration of unaccompanied minors, $ 867,785 is proposed for 1994. A vocational training project has been budgeted at $ 431,000 for implementation in 1994.

Project Personnel Expenditure (PPE)/Programme Support and Administration (PSA)

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) major developments

2.10.21 So as to facilitate and monitor more effectively the repatriation and reintegration of returnees in Viet Nam, UNHCR increased its presence through the addition of two international Professional posts, one of which was based in Hanoi and the other in Ho Chi Minh City. One Junior Professional Officer was deployed in the Branch Office in Hanoi.

2.10.22 During 1992, a variety of non-expendable property was purchased, including two vehicles (as replacements), computer equipment, a generator, and a new telephone system for the Branch Office.

2.10.23 Overall administrative expenditure under Special Programmes in 1992 was slightly lower than estimated, and the savings will be carried over to the following year. The slight over-expenditure in PSA was funded through transfers between appropriations under General Programmes.

b) 1993 Revised estimates

2.10.24 UNHCR will deploy two additional Professional staff members to Viet Nam in the first half of 1993 in order to strengthen further the monitoring of the repatriation and reintegration of returnees. One of the posts will be based in the Branch Office in Hanoi while the other will be based in the Office of the Working Group in Ho Chi Minh City.

2.10.25 The 1993 revised administrative requirements have been budgeted under Special Programmes. The revised administrative budget for 1993 represents an increase over the 1993 initial budget. The creation of the additional posts results in higher provisions for salary, staff costs and travel. The provision for general operating expenses is higher than in the previous year to allow for repairs to office premises in both Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. The provision for non-expendable property has also been increased in order to allow for the purchase and replacement of air conditioners, photocopiers and computer equipment.

c) 1994 Initial estimates

2.10.26 As the repatriation operation is expected to continue throughout 1994, no change in the staffing level is envisaged at this stage. The 1994 initial budget for administrative expenditure under Special Programmes is slightly higher than the revised 1993 budget due to budgeting for full staffing thoughout the year. However, there is a decrease in the anticipated need for the purchase and replacement of non-expendable property.

UNHCR EXPENDITURE IN VIET NAM

(in thousands of United States dollars)

1992	1993		1994	
AMOUNT OBLIGATED	ALLOCATION APPROVED BY 1992 EXCOM	PROPOSED REVISED ALLOCATION	SOURCE OF FUNDS AND TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	PROPOSED ALLOCATION/ PROJECTION
			GENERAL PROGRAMMES (1)	
250.7	101.7	120.0	LOCAL SETTLEMENT Assistance towards self-sufficiency to some 14,000 Cambodian refugees in four rural settlements	79.2
85.9	40.0	40.0	RESETTLEMENT Travel and related costs for the resettlement of Cambodian refugees	40.0
376.2	416.9	–	PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN. See Annexes I and II	–
712.8	558.6	160.0	Sub-total (1)	119.2
			SPECIAL PROGRAMMES (2)	
			OTHER TRUST FUNDS	
36.3	–	44.1	PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN. Junior Professional Officer	44.1
125.4	–	–	CAMBODIA REPATRIATION OPERATION	–
14,562.7	13,400.0	15,145.2	COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF ACTION	13,757.8
14,724.4	13,400.0	15,189.3	Sub-total (2)	13,801.9
15,437.2	**13,958.6**	**15,349.3**	**GRAND TOTAL (1+2)**	**13,921.1**

2.11 OTHER COUNTRIES AND AREAS IN ASIA

This section covers UNHCR's activities in India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Papua New Guinea, Singapore and Sri Lanka.

Area Overview

India

2.11.1 Besides the operation in Tamil Nadu described under the Special Programme for the Sri Lankan Repatriation, UNHCR assists one of its largest groups of urban refugees in New Delhi. At the end of 1992, there were 11,002 Afghans, 295 Iranians and 511 refugees of other nationalities, mainly Somalis. By the end of May 1993 the urban refugee population increased to some 25,000 due to a large influx of Hindu and Sikh Afghans, the majority of whom have arrived in India since July 1992 owing to events in Afghanistan. The monthly rate of influx was about 2,000 until the beginning of 1993 and imposed severe strains on the Office. Government permission has been requested to engage a local non-governemental organization (NGO) as a partner to implement the assistance programme which comprises the permission of subsistence allowances, medical coverage, education and vocational training. Educational assistance at the primary level was provided in 1992 to 2,910 students. In addition, 50 students are receiving lower secondary education, and 250 are receiving vocational training in 1992-1993. Meanwhile, 741 persons were resettled between January 1992 and March 1993, the highest number to the United States of America under a programme of family reunification, and 2,366 persons returned to Afghanistan during the same period, of whom 354 with UNHCR assistance.

2.11.2 In 1993 a survey was conducted to determine the most appropriate form for assistance to the various categories of urban refugees and to review the assistance currently being given to vulnerable groups, single women and children, so as to reduce the dependence that many years of assistance have created. Educational assistance at university level given to 40 students in 1992 terminated by June 1993.

2.11.3 Besides the urban refugees in New Delhi, there are, according to Government estimates of March 1993, some 53,000 Chakma refugees from Bangladesh in India. Bilateral arrangements have been made by the Governments of India and Bangladesh for the voluntary repatriation of the Chakma refugees and UNHCR has offered its assistance in this matter to both Governments.

2.11.4 The programme of assistance to the predominantly Afghan urban caseload envisaged for 1994 will promote repatriation to Afghanistan once the situation in that country is conducive to return in safety and dignity. The resettlement programme, which remains the most desirable durable solution for Iranians, will continue. While awaiting a durable solution, the remaining urban refugees will be assisted along the lines recommended by the survey. The amount of assistance received by each case will be commensurate with its means. Thus a refugee who receives financial support from relatives in India or overseas will receive a lower amount from UNHCR. On the other hand, particular attention will continue to be given to meeting the needs of refugee women, children and vulnerable groups. Vocational training will continue to be given to refugees through community centres, where their health and nutritional needs will also be met. Pre-natal and post-natal care will be organized, and outreach services maintained for women who cannot attend the community centres.

Japan

2.11.5 The total number of Indo-Chinese asylum-seekers and refugees in Japan at the end of 1992 stood at 8,707. This total includes refugees who arrived directly by boat, refugees who were selected for resettlement in Japan from other countries and Vietnamese arriving directly in Japan through the Orderly Departure Programme (ODP). As 31 December 1992 664 Vietnamese asylum-seekers were receiving UNHCR assistance and were accommodated in a variety of camps, reception, and detention centres. There were 17 Vietnamese new arrivals in 1992.

2.11.6 Since the introduction of procedures for the determination of refugee status in September 1989 as stipulated under the Comprehensive Plan of Action for Indo-Chinese Refugees (CPA), a total of 593 persons had arrived by boat as of the end of March 1993. This total included a number of individuals who had spent time in Hong Kong and for whom no refugee status determination has been carried out pending a policy decision of the government vis-à-vis irregular movements under the CPA. A total of 183 persons have been interviewed for purposes of refugee status determination by immigration authorities. Of these, 136 persons were recognized as refugees.

2.11.7 During 1992, 55 Vietnamese refugees were resettled in third countries under family reunification or group sponsorship. Japan accepted 366 Indo-Chinese refugees from camps in Hong Kong, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand, and 183 Vietnamese refugees arrived in Japan under the ODP.

2.11.8 Up to 1992, assistance activities focused on local settlement and resettlement of Vietnamese boat people. Following the introduction of refugee status determination procedures within the framework of the CPA, voluntary repatration has become the durable solution for persons not recognized as refugees. In March 1992, some 140 Vietnamese asylum-seekers expressed their wish to be repatriated by UNHCR. In December 1992, a

Vietnamese delegation visited Japan for the first time to interview applicants for voluntary repatriation, after which 114 persons repatriated in January 1993. Subsequent to the visit of another Vietnamese delegation in May 1993, an additional 99 persons returned home in June 1993.

2.11.9 The 664 Vietnamese asylum-seekers who received UNHCR assistance are mostly farmers and fishermen with only primary education. They were provided with a daily subsistence allowance of ¥ 927 per adult and ¥ 515 per child under twelve years of age. In addition, they received medical care, counselling, interpretation and transport services. The assistance is provided by Caritas Japan, the Foundation for the Welfare and Education of Asian People, the Japanese Red Cross Society and Rissho Kosei-Kai in twelve facilities throughout Japan.

2.11.10 Since Japan's accession to the 1951 Convention and 1967 Protocol in 1981, 79 non-Indo-Chinese asylum-seekers had been granted refugee status by the end of February 1993.

2.11.11 A revised amount of $ 1,400,000 under General Programmes and $ 466,720 under Special Programmes for care and maintenance has been budgeted for 1993. As in 1992, UNHCR will continue to provide assistance to the Vietnamese refugees and asylum-seekers in the form of food, domestic needs, health care, inland transport and interpretation services. Implementing arrangements will remain the same as in the previous year.

2.11.12 Efforts will be made during the course of the year to encourage implementing partners to improve services in the camp and also to encourage camp managers to increase refugee participation in carrying out camp activities. Priority will be given to the speedy movement or transfer of Vietnamese who have been recognized as refugees from the Omura Reception Centre to a first asylum camp or local settlement facility according to the refugees' resettlement or settlement profile.

2.11.13 An amount of $ 1,200,000 under General Programmes and $400,025 under Special Programmes is proposed for 1994 for care and maintenance assistance. The assistance to be provided will be consistent with that provided in 1993. As in previous years, UNHCR will continue to play an active role in providing counselling to Vietnamese asylum-seekers and refugees with respect to appropriate durable solutions.

Lao People's Democratic Republic

2.11.14 At 31 December 1992, a total 4,652 Lao had returned voluntarily under UNHCR auspices: 3,036 from Thailand and 1,616 from China. At the end of 1992, there remained some 41,000 Lao refugees and asylum-seekers in Thailand and 2,000 in China. During the first quarter of 1993, some 3,200 applicants from Thailand and 120 from China were waiting to be repatriated.

2.11.15 Five tripartite meetings have been held by the Lao and Thai Governments and UNHCR, the most recent one in July 1992, to regulate procedures for repatriation from Thailand. A tripartite meeting was also held by the Governments of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and China, and UNHCR, in 1991. All the parties to the tripartite agreements concur that the process of repatriation must be accompanied by measures to promote the smooth reintegration of the returnees and to afford them the means for a stable livelihood. The Sixth Tripartite meeting between the Lao and Thai Governments and UNHCR was held in July 1993.

2.11.16 The waiting period for return to the Lao People's Democratic republic has increased as there is only limited land available for group settlements. At present, a total of 37 settlement sites have been identified and are in various stages of development. Seventeen sites are occupied, and of those, ten are considered fully utilized. The remaining sites have not all been surveyed, and it is not yet known whether they will prove suitable for settlement.

2.11.17 The problems of economic reintegration and the need to prepare settlement sites for repatriation are especially important among the Hilltribe people. The great majority of the 33,407 Lao who remained in Thailand as of the end of June 1993 belong to the Hmong ethnic group.

2.11.18 In addition to the need for new sites for potential returnees from Thailand, there is also a secondary movement of earlier returnees, both from Thailand and China, to group settlements as individual returnees find it difficult to support families with limited amounts of land and, therefore, to reintegrate successfully.

2.11.19 The Lao Government is intensifying its efforts to identify new, larger sites, especially in the northern provinces, to cope with the present and expected increase in repatriation.

2.11.20 The Ministry of Social Affairs and War Veterans is the main partner for the implementation of UNHCR's reintegration programmes. The Ministry's provincial departments are responsible for implementing and monitoring projects. Two NGOs, Concern and CONSORTIUM, are implementing group settlement activities. ZOA-Refugee Care Netherlands is expected to assist the UNHCR returnee programme in late 1993.

2.11.21 Efforts will continue to focus on assistance relating to voluntary repatriation and measures to facilitate the reintegration of the returnees in their local communities. Within the camps in Thailand, mass education to promote voluntary repatriation will continue to be undertaken. Direct and immediate assistance on an individual basis to returnees, including food, domestic items, agricultural tools, etc., will also continue to be provided. UNHCR assistance benefits both the returnees and the surrounding population. Access roads, school buildings, dispensaries, water-supply and irrigation

systems have been constructed or improved for the villages of return. To assist the Lao Government in coping with the increasing flow of returnees, UNHCR funded the construction of three transit centres in the provinces, bringing the total number of such centres to eleven as of the end of 1992. UNHCR has continued to monitor the safe integration in their home villages of both voluntary returnees and those not recognized as refugees under CPA refugee status determination procedures.

2.11.22 During 1992 and 1993, each returnee received a cash grant equivalent to $ 120 as well as an 18-month rice ration, in addition to UNHCR assistance in transport, water, sanitation, shelter, health and other sectors at returnee settlement sites.

2.11.23 The activities being undertaken in 1993 will continue in 1994 and a higher number of returnees is anticipated. Furthermore, the identification and preparation of settlement sites will intensify with the more active participation of NGOs.

Republic of Korea

2.11.24 At 31 December 1992, Korea hosted some 149 Vietnamese asylum-seekers, all of whom were assisted by UNHCR and accommodated at the Pusan camp.

2.11.25 UNHCR provided care and maintenance to the asylum-seekers whilst seeking durable solutions. The UNHCR assistance programme is implemented by the Korean National Red Cross in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

2.11.26 Korea acceded to both the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, with a reservation to article 7 of the 1951 Convention, on 3 December 1992. The instruments entered into force as of 3 March 1993.

2.11.27 During the first quarter of 1993, the New Zealand Government accepted for resettlement all residents of the Pusan camp under a special humanitarian programme. A total of 149 persons departed for New Zealand in February 1993, and the remaining two persons departed by the end of June 1993. No further assistance is envisaged for 1994.

Papua New Guinea

2.11.28 Papua New Guinea hosted a refugee population of some 6,300 persons from Irian Jaya at 31 December 1992, 3,684 of whom are living in East Awin rural settlement in the Western Province. The remaining 2,616 are living in five villages in the border areas. There are two Somalis, one Nigerian and one Turkish Kurd who reside in Port Moresby and are being assisted by UNHCR.

2.11.29 Two groups totaling 370 persons crossed the border into Papua New Guinea during the first quarter of 1992, 338 of whom were relocated to East Awin settlement site. The remaining arrivals returned spontaneously to Irian Jaya.

2.11.30 The closure of the remaining five border villages and the relocation of some 2,500 persons did not take place in 1992 as originally planned mainly due to the unavailability of land at the settlement site.

2.11.31 The Branch Office will be closed on 31 December 1993. However, the UNHCR presence in the country will be maintained by one Liaison Officer and two support staff as from 1 January 1994.

2.11.32 Despite substantial efforts on the part of Government authorities and UNHCR to promote self-sufficiency among the refugee population in East Awin, the settlements are not fully self-supporting. The border refugee population of some 2,600 refugees, will also need to be assisted when transferred to the settlement site. Efforts to achieve self-sufficiency have been hampered by the fact that at present the settlement site cannot accommodate all the refugees due to the limited available land. Continued assistance will be required in order to provide a minimum level of economic security for the refugees whilst they become more fully engaged in self-supporting activities such as timber-milling, furniture-making and agriculture. As in the past, assistance for these refugees will concentrate on helping them to integrate locally and become self-supporting.

2.11.33 The Department of Village Services and Provincial Affairs is responsible for the administration of the local settlement site and border camps, and for new arrivals. Three advisers seconded by NGOs assist the Department and the settlement's administration in planning and implementing income-generating programmes. The Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) implements a small post-secondary education programme in Port Moresby. The Monfort Catholic Mission is responsible for the primary education and health sectors in East Awin. It also organizes women's groups in East Awin to provide them domestic-skills, child-care and literacy training.

2.11.34 A survey which assessed the food needs of the settlement population in 1992 confirmed that a majority of the residents in East Awin have attained a measure of self-sufficiency in food. Full food rations will now be provided only to new arrivals. Agricultural production increased significantly during 1992, and a considerable quantity of excess vegetables, fruits and other cash crops were sold by the settlement population in local markets.

2.11.35 Educational assistance at the primary and secondary levels was provided in 1992 and 1993 to some 1,800 beneficiaries. The same level of educational assistance will be maintained throughout 1994. Assistance in the

health sector was also provided in 1992 and 1993. Medical supplies were provided by the Government.

2.11.36 Activities to promote self-sufficiency, such as community-development, crop-production and income-generating schemes, will be continued and further expanded in 1993. Machinery and equipment for a modest sawmill and small furniture-making enterprise have been acquired and installed, and products will be marketed through cooperatives. These activities are being planned and organized by the NGO advisory personnel. An amount of $ 896,300 has been budgeted for local settlement activities in 1993.

2.11.37 It is anticipated that by the end of 1994, the East Awin settlement will become largely self-supporting. Programme priorities for 1994 will therefore be to continue the activities carried out in 1993 and to enhance the focus on activities towards promoting self-sufficiency of the settlement population in East Awin. An amount of $ 885,500 is proposed for 1994 to achieve this objective. It is expected that the Government will assume responsibility for providing health services to the refugees as from January 1994.

2.11.38 The closure of the border camps in the Western Province and the anticipated repatriation of several hundred persons to Indonesia did not occur in 1992 as the border camp population could not be relocated to the settlement site in East Awin. However, 126 persons had repatriated voluntarily by the end of May 1993. A sum of $ 15 per returnee family was given as pocket money prior to departure. The monitoring of the safe return of the returnees was carried out by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

2.11.39 It is expected that some 300 refugees will repatriate voluntarily in 1993. An amount of $ 67,300 has been budgeted for 1993.

2.11.40 A total planning budget of $ 21,900 is proposed for 1994 to provide transportation and food to the returnees. It is expected that several hundred refugees in East Awin will repatriate to their respective villages.

2.11.41 The Education Account appropriations for 1992/1993 cover scholarship assistance for twelve beneficiaries. In addition, scholarships are provided for three refugee students to cover partially the costs of their university studies in 1993. An amount of $ 19,200 is proposed for 1994 to cover the costs of eight trainees for teacher training.

Singapore

2.11.42 A total of 148 Indo-Chinese asylum-seekers were accommodated in the Hawkins Road Camp in Singapore at the beginning of 1992. There were no new arrivals in 1992, and 57 Vietnamese were resettled to third countries. The

total camp population, following one birth, stood at 92 by the end of 1992. All these asylum-seekers were from the southern and central parts of Viet Nam. One third of the caseload is comprised of women, and there are 17 childrens below 18 years of age. A total of 190 non-Indo-chinese asylum-seekers approached the UNHCR Branch Office in Singapore during 1992. Of these, 38 refugees received financial assistance pending resettlement. The majority are single males from an urban background.

2.11.43 Vietnamese asylum-seekers are accommodated at the Hawkins Road Camp which is under the direct responsibility of UNHCR. They are provided with a daily subsistence allowance to cover the cost of food and other necessities. The payment of a food allowance was replaced by the provision of fresh food in March 1992. However, due to logistic problems and higher overhead costs, the provision of fresh food was discontinued during the second quarter of 1993, and the payment of a food allowance was reintroduced. Health care is provided through a camp clinic which is staffed by a nurse and a part-time doctor. The Catholic Welfare Services (CWS) is responsible for camp administration, distribution of mail, health care and social services.

2.11.44 Signs of frustration were noted among the Vietnamese asylum-seekers in the camp due mainly to the length of stay in the camp. This led to demonstrations in the camp in the first and fourth quarters of 1992.

2.11.45 The level of care and maintenance assistance in 1993 will be sustained; however, expenditure will be increased slightly due mainly to higher overhead costs in food distribution and in maintenance and renovation of the camp facilities, including engineer's fees. Care and maintenance assistance in 1994 will be similar to that provided in 1993 but financed entirely from the CPA, with the emphasis on finding durable solutions. Efforts will be made to continue counselling the Vietnamese asylum-seekers on the durable solutions available to them.

2.11.46 Non-Indo-Chinese asylum-seekers are accommodated in small hotels. They receive a daily subsistence allowance to cover the cost of accommodation, meals and other daily necessities. The level of assistance for 1993 has been revised downwards due to the reduced number of legal consultants required to conduct refugee status determination interviews, as no significant increase in new arrivals is foreseen. The level of assistance in 1994 is expected to be the same as in 1993 with the same projected number of beneficiaries.

Sri Lanka

2.11.47 Besides the assistance activities for the returnees and displaced persons reported under the Special Programme for Sri Lankan Repatriation, UNHCR is responsible for the care and maintenance of 21 refugees, mostly Afghans, who were detained as illegal immigrants and handed over to UNHCR. Finding a durable solution for the small group is arduous since local

integration is not permitted, repatriation is still problematic and resettlement opportunities are scarce. The basic assistance provided to this group is in the form of a subsistence allowance, which is supplemented with an additional grant for primary education or special health needs.

2.11.48 The programme will continue in 1994 as long as the need persists.

Project Personnel Expenditure (PPE)/Programme Support and Administration (PSA)

2.11.49 In India, a UNHCR presence was established in Madras in August 1992 for verification activities relating to the repatriation of Sri Lankan refugees in Tamil Nadu State. This involved the deployment of short-term staff, both local and international, as well as the costs of operating the office in Madras. Funds were allocated from the General Allocation for Voluntary Repatriation under the Annual Programme.

2.11.50 PPE/PSA costs are expected to be higher in 1993 than in 1992 given the need to maintain a presence in Madras throughout the year. In this regard, five posts were established for the Madras operation, two at the Professional and three at the General Service level. The posts, which commenced on 1 July 1993, as well as all costs related to the Madras operation are to be funded from the Sri Lankan Repatriation Programme in 1993. Furthermore, the post of Senior Repatriation Officer in New Delhi was also funded from this Special Programme as from 1 January 1993. In New Delhi, general operating expenses will increase in 1993 as the Office of the Chief of Mission has been obliged to move to new premises with higher rent and significant renovation costs.

2.11.51 Projections for 1994 administrative expenditures are marginally lower than in 1993. The UNHCR presence in Madras will be extended through 31 December 1994. General operating expenses and provisions for permanent equipment for the New Delhi office will be reduced, however, because office renovation costs will already have been incurred and two replacement vehicles for the office will already have been purchased during the course of 1993.

2.11.52 Because of a need to increase office space and improve security, the UNHCR Branch Office in Japan explored the possibility of moving to new premises in 1992. Options considered included sharing facilities with other United Nations agencies, but a suitable alternative could not be identified. The search for office space will continue in 1993 and, if a suitable alternative is found, it may be necessary to increase the allocation for administrative expenditure to allow for removal and installation costs.

2.11.53 In order to respond to increased UNHCR activity, particularly in the areas of fund raising and protection, the Office increased the level of staffing in the Branch Office in Tokyo in 1992 through the addition of two posts: one international Professional and one local General Service. An

additional local General Service post has been created for the second half of 1993 in order to respond to increased demands within the area of public information.

2.11.54 The UNHCR Branch Office purchased computer hardware and software in early 1992 in order to increase its data processing and document-production capacity.

2.11.55 Total administrative expenditure under General and Special Programmes in 1992 was lower than the 1992 revised budget. The 1993 revised budget for administrative expenditure under General and Special Programmes is higher than the initial budget, primarily due to the newly created posts and increased travel for the purpose of project monitoring, fund raising, and public informati n.

2.11.56 The 1994 administrative budget under General and Special Programmes is lower than the 1993 revised budget as a result of projected decreases in general operating expenses which may not be achieved if alternative, and less expensive office accommodation cannot be identified.

2.11.57 To facilitate more effectively the repatriation of Lao from Thailand and China, UNHCR increased the level of staffing in the Lao People's Democratic Republic in 1992. Three additional international (of which two were Junior Professional Officers) and six local General Service posts were added in order to strengthen administrative and project control and increase the monitoring of returnees and group settlement. The UNHCR Branch Office moved to new premises in June 1992. Additional furniture and office equipment were purchased, and computer equipment was redeployed from UNHCR Headquarters. In addition, an existing vehicle was replaced and an extra vehicle purchased. Total administrative expenditure under General and Special Programmes in 1992 was lower than projected because tentative plans to open one or more field offices in the provinces were deferred. There was, however, a slight over-expenditure in PSA which was funded by PPE savings during the same period.

2.11.58 The 1993 revised budget for administrative requirements is slightly lower than actual expenditure for 1992. While salary and staff costs are projected to be higher, general operating expenses will be significantly lower as renovation and removal to the new office premises took place in 1992. The travel allocation for 1993 has been increased to allow staff members to travel more frequently to the provinces to monitor the repatriation and reintegration of returnees. Provision has also been made to establish a telecommunications network in the Lao People's Democratic Republic in 1993 in order to enhance communication and improve staff security.

2.11.59 The staffing level in 1994 is projected to be the same as in 1993; however, the 1994 initial budget for the Lao People's Democratic Republic is

lower than the 1993 revised estimate because of a significant reduction in the requirements for the purchase and replacement of non-expendable property.

2.11.60 The UNHCR Branch Office in Papua New Guinea operated normally in 1992 with slightly lower administrative expenditure than initially projected. A decision was made in April 1992 to close the Branch Office at the end of the year. As a consequence, funds were not budgeted for administrative requirements in 1993. However, the decision was reversed following the recommendations of a mission from UNHCR Headquarters to maintain the Branch Office until the end of 1993. An allocation from the 1993 Programme Reserve was made available for initial administrative expenditure, including the salary for one international staff member and two local staff members hired under temporary assistance. The revised estimate for 1993 totals $ 302,300 and includes provisions for salary and staff costs for one international staff member, temporary assistance hired locally, travel, general operating expenses, and minimal amounts for supplies, materials, and non-expendable property.

2.11.61 UNHCR will maintain a presence in Papua New Guinea in 1994. As of 1 January 1994 the Branch Office will be reclassified as a Liaison Office in which one international officer and two local General Service staff members will be deployed. The initial estimate for administrative expenditure for 1994 is $ 335,500. This includes a slight increase in the amount budgeted for salaries and staff costs in anticipation of the office being fully staffed throughout the year.

2.11.62 The UNHCR Branch Office in Singapore functioned normally in 1992 with no changes in the level of staffing and with overall administrative expenditure slightly lower than the 1992 revised estimate. Over-expenditure within PSA was offset by PPE savings during the same period. Demonstrations by Vietnamese asylum-seekers at the UNHCR Branch Office in 1992 made it necessary to hire a full-time security guard. This arrangement has been continued in 1993.

2.11.63 UNHCR Headquarters fielded a mission to Singapore in 1992 to review the UNHCR presence there. On the basis of the mission's recommendations and a subsequent review in UNHCR Headquarters, the Branch Office was reclassified as a Sub-Office, reporting to the UNHCR Branch Office in Malaysia as from 1 January 1993. Because of the uncertainty surrounding the type of representation and staffing required, the initial budgetary provision for 1993 was significantly reduced in anticipation of a reduction in the number of staff members and operating expenses. Instead, the prior-year staffing level has been maintained with one international and four local staff members. Since insufficient funds were budgeted for 1993, an appropriation from the 1993 Programme Reserve was made available to cover the initial shortfall. The revised requirements for 1993 have been incorporated into UNHCR's revised administrative budget for 1993.

2.11.64 Following a further review of the UNHCR presence in Singapore, the Sub-Office will be reclassified as a Liaison Office reporting to Branch Office Malaysia as of 1 January 1994, and staffing will be reduced to three local staff members.

2.11.65 In Sri Lanka UNHCR had established a field presence to oversee the construction and operation of transit facilities for returnees and to monitor the assistance in the Open Relief Centers (ORCs) for displaced persons and returnees in uncleared areas. Field Offices were opened in mid-1992 in Vavuniya and Trincomalee to complement the already existing field offices in Madhu and Pesalai. By the end of 1992 a total of 29 posts were established in Sri Lanka. As a consequence of the above, PSA expenditure exceeded the 1992 revised budget estimates. The over-expenditure was funded through transfers between appropriations.

2.11.66 In 1992 three posts in the Branch Office in Colombo were funded through the General Programmes, but from 1 January 1993 all administrative costs in Sri Lanka, including all posts, were incorporated into the Special Programme for Sri Lanka. An additional eight posts have been created as from 1 July 1993 in Colombo and Vavuniya to provide the Sri Lanka operation with increased administrative and programme support for activities relating to the returnees and displaced population. The revised 1993 estimates for administrative costs will be increased if and when agreement is reached between the Governement of Sri Lanka and the LTTE for the operation of a safe passage to and from the Jaffna peninsula in the north of the country. Additional requirements would include the deployment of up to 18 staff in the area, of whom six would be international staff. Essential equipment needed for the operation would include radios, generators, vehicles, prefabricated offices and office equipment, as the area is isolated and has little infrastructure.

2.11.67 It is envisaged that 1994 levels of administrative support will be maintained approximately at 1993 levels. The Special Programmes funding is due to be extended to the end of 1994. All posts in the Branch and Field Offices have been extended and budgeted accordingly, subject to funding being secured through a revised appeal to donors expected to be issued later in 1993.

UNHCR EXPENDITURE IN OTHER COUNTRIES AND AREAS IN ASIA

(in thousands of United States dollars)

1992	1993			1994	
AMOUNT OBLIGATED	ALLOCATION APPROVED BY 1992 EXCOM	PROPOSED REVISED ALLOCATION		SOURCE OF FUNDS AND TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	PROPOSED ALLOCATION/ PROJECTION
GENERAL PROGRAMMES (1)					
				CARE AND MAINTENANCE	
2,291.1	3,692.1	3,548.5	India	Basic assistance pending a durable solution	3,064.3
1,834.4	1,600.0	1,400.0	Japan	including, as appropriate, subsistence	1,200.0
158.8 b/	113.1	39.9	Korea	allowances, medical care, education,	–
1.3 a/	–	–	Laos	counselling and legal services	–
321.0	271.4	474.7	Singapore		218.9
36.1 a/	32.4	32.4	Sri Lanka		28.0
				VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION	
214.1 c/	111.6	91.1	India	Travel and related costs and	91.1
10.0	20.0	67.3	Papua New Guinea	promotion of voluntary repatriation and	21.9
8.3 a/	–	–	Japan	related assistance to repatriants	–
0.9 a/	–	–	Singapore		–
0.9 a/	–	–	Sri Lanka		–
				LOCAL SETTLEMENT	
1,001.3	601.5	896.3	Papua New Guinea	Assistance towards income generating	885.5
1.4 a/	–	–	Japan	self-sufficiency activities	–
				RESETTLEMENT	
24.6 a/	–	–	India	Travel, medical examinations and related	–
4.4 a/	–	–	Papua New Guinea	costs for Indochinese refugees	–
95.6 a/	–	–	Sri Lanka		–
2.2 a/	–	–	Singapore		–
785.6	1,776.2	2,013.7	Various countries		1,844.2
				PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN.	
221.5	164.9	141.7	India	See Annexes I and II	138.2
1,563.7	1,588.9	1,773.9	Japan		1,676.1
109.2	95.1	–	Laos		–
276.0	0.0	–	Singapore		–
259.2	43.1	–	Sri Lanka		–
158.3	0.0	–	Papua New Guinea		–
61.2	212.2	202.3	Training		202.3
9,441.1	10,322.5	10,681.8		Sub-total (1)	9,370.5
SPECIAL PROGRAMMES (2)					
				EDUCATION ACCOUNT	
24.8	29.4	29.4	Papua New Guinea	16 university scholarships	19.2
17	–	–	India	40 university scholarships	–
				OTHER TRUST FUNDS	
3,457.6	–	5,500.0	Sri Lanka	Returnee Programme	5,500.0
27.4	–	79.4	Japan		–
–	–	403.6	India	Repatriation to Sri Lanka	346.4
				PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN.	
90.9	95.0	58.6	India	Junior Professional Officer	58.6
250.7	194.0	201.6	Laos	Junior Professional Officer	201.6
69.8	49.8	–	Laos	Operations	–
				COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF ACTION	
637.8	600	1282.2	Japan		888.2
2,922.9	3,275.2	4,443.6	Laos		6,107.1
–	–	–	Singapore		186.5
5.8	9,500.0	9,369.8	Other countries		9,458.5
7,504.7	13,743.4	21,368.2		Sub-total (2)	22,766.1
16,945.8	**24,065.9**	**32,050.0**		**GRAND TOTAL (1+2)**	**32,136.6**

a/ obligations incurred against Overall Allocations
b/ of which US$ 950 incurred against Overall Allocation
c/ of which US$ 103,321 incurred against the General Allocation for Voluntary Repatriation

2.12 AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

Area Overview

Characteristics of the refugee population

2.12.1 At the end of 1992, the number of refugees in Australia was estimated by the Australian Immigration Department at 36,023. Australia has granted either resettlement to or regularized the status of spontaneous arrivals of between 11,000 to 12,500 persons annually since 1987. This annual figure, known as Australia's "Refugee and Humanitarian Programme", has increasingly become a programme for special humanitarian cases and spontaneous arrivals. For the Australian fiscal year 1991-1992, of the 12,009 persons accepted, 2,263 (19 per cent) were resettled refugees; 2,862 (24 per cent) were persons whose status was legalized after arriving in Australia and seeking asylum; and 6,884 persons (57 per cent) were admitted as "Special Humanitarian" or "Special Assistance" cases.

2.12.2 Two-thirds of those who settle in Australia under these programmes take up residence in Sydney or Melbourne. English-language training is a post-arrival priority for the majority and strongly influences their employment prospects. Assistance to the refugees is provided by the Government of Australia.

2.12.3 In New Zealand, there were some 17,310 refugees at the end of June 1992. New Zealand has had an annual quota of 800 persons under its refugee programme since 1947. The 1992 quota made special provisions for UNHCR-submitted "protection" cases, though there are problems in maintaining an even flow of submissions. During 1992, 165 persons arrived spontaneously and 331 persons have been accepted by the Government for resettlement. Assistance to the refugee population is provided by the Government of New Zealand.

Major developments (1992 and first quarter 1993)

2.12.4 In Australia, after the dramatic increase in the rate of individual claims for asylum recorded in 1991 (over 1,000 cases per month), the rate stabilized in 1992 at approximately 400 cases per month. Similarly, the figure in New Zealand has levelled off at approximately 80 per month. The increases burdened the concerned departments of both countries as well as UNHCR. The Australian and New Zealand Governments funded a significant portion of the Regional Office's protection activities.

2.12.5 Following the introduction of the Migration Reform Bill 1992 in Australia which entered into effect on 1 July 1993, a Refugee Review Tribunal (RRT) was created to replace the Refugee Status Review Committee, the former

appeal body. The Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs (DIEA) has requested UNHCR to provide informal and ad hoc case-related advice both at the first-instance and appeal stages. Further, UNHCR assistance has been requested in the area of training for governmental officials in international law and the principles and procedures for the determination of refugee status, as well as for the management of a country of origin information database.

2.12.6 One of the major developments in 1992 was the continuing trickle of some 400 asylum-seekers who came by boat from Cambodia, China, Viet Nam and even Poland.

2.12.7 After having obtained the Pacific Forum's official endorsement of UNHCR's universal humanitarian role at its annual meeting in 1991, UNHCR organized in 1992 a very well-received refugee law seminar for senior legal officers in the Pacific region.

Programme objectives and priorities

2.12.8 UNHCR's primary objective continues to be to pursue, with the relevant governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the region, as well as with refugee interest groups, the granting of facilities and services to refugees corresponding to internationally agreed standards, with particular attention to the needs of vulnerable groups.

2.12.9 At the end of 1993, UNHCR plans to phase out its symbolic contribution to the Refugee Advice and Casework Service (RACS) which has provided counselling services to asylum-seekers and refugees in Australia.

Arrangements for implementation/related inputs

2.12.10 The UNHCR Regional Office in Canberra works in close cooperation with the relevant departments of the Australian and New Zealand Governments, particularly with the Departments of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs as well as Foreign Affairs and Trade in Australia, and the Department of Labour and the Ministry of External Relations and Trade in New Zealand. UNHCR has observer status on the Refugee Status Review Committee (RSRC) in Australia and on the Refugee Status Appeals Authority (RSAA) in New Zealand.

2.12.11 In Australia, voluntary agencies concerned with refugees include AUSTCARE and the Refugee Council of Australia and, in New Zealand, the Refugee and Migrant Service.

2.12.12 In addition to these two countries, the UNHCR Regional Office covers twelve independent nations in the South Pacific: the Cook Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. There has been increased contact on asylum-related issues, particularly in the case of Fiji.

General Programmes

Care and Maintenance

a) 1992-1993 (first quarter) programme implementation

2.12.13 Care and maintenance assistance consists of a caseworker service on a national basis to advise and refer individuals wishing to apply for refugee status under the 1951 Convention relating to Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol. The availability of a specialized refugee advice service has enhanced the level of protection and assistance provided to applicants for refugee status.

b) 1993 programme implentation

2.12.14 UNHCR's contribution to the caseworker service for individuals wishing to apply for refugee status is expected to be phased out at the end of the year as planned.

c) 1994 programme proposals

2.12.15 No provision has been made for 1994.

Special Programmes

Other Trust Funds

a) 1992-1993 (first quarter) implementation

2.12.16 Provision for staff costs and related expenditure for assistance towards the determination of refugee status in Australia, which has been provided since 1991, was maintained during the period under review.

b) 1993 programme proposals

2.12.17 The Australian Government's contribution towards UNHCR's involvement in refugee status determination procedures in Australia was phased out at the end of 1993. However, UNHCR will continue to be involved in status determination procedures.

Project Personnel Expenditure(PPE)/Programme Support and Administration (PSA)

a) 1992 - 1993 (first quarter) major developments

2.12.18 The UNHCR Regional Office in Canberra operated normally in 1992 with the staffing level remaining consistent with the previous year. Three legal officer posts, funded by the Australian Government, which had been created in 1991, remained unfilled and were discontinued in 1992 after UNHCR and the Australian Government agreed that they were no longer needed.

2.12.19 With a view to improving the efficiency of the Office, the computer system was upgraded and a local area network was installed.

2.12.20 Expenditure for PSA in 1992 was lower than projected as a result of savings under staff costs, travel, operating expenses and non-expendable property. PPE under Special Programmes, Other Trust Funds, was also lower than projected because of savings under common staff costs. In the first quarter of 1993 legal consultants were hired to assist in the review of appeals for refugee status.

b) 1993 Revised estimates

2.12.21 The 1993 revised budget for PSA is approximately the same as the 1992 revised budget. The addition of a National Officer post is offset by a reduction in the requirement for the purchase and replacement of non-expendable property.

2.12.22 The 1993 revised budget for PPE is slightly lower than the initial estimate. While the number of international Professional and local General Service posts remains unchanged from 31 December 1992, certain posts remain vacant. It is hoped that the results of ongoing discussions with the Governments of Australia and New Zealand, in conjunction with the results of UNHCR's own review of its protection role, particularly with respect to refugee status determination procedures, which will be carried out in the second half of the year, will determine the appropriate level of staffing, including the future of the presently vacant posts.

c) 1994 Initial estimates

2.12.23 The initial 1994 budget for PSA is slightly higher than the 1993 revised estimate as a result of projected increases in salary and staff costs concerning the National Officer post created in 1993 and an increase in public information activities. No provision has been made in 1994 for PPE under Special Programmes, Other Trust Funds.

UNHCR EXPENDITURE IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

(in thousands of United States dollars)

1992	1993		1994	
AMOUNT OBLIGATED	ALLOCATION APPROVED BY 1992 EXCOM	PROPOSED REVISED ALLOCATION	SOURCE OF FUNDS AND TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	PROPOSED ALLOCATION/ PROJECTION
GENERAL PROGRAMMES (1)				
17.9 a/	8.0	8.2	CARE AND MAINTENANCE Legal counselling for asylum seekers from various countries	–
104.9 b/	–	–	VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION	–
6.1 b/	–	–	LOCAL SETTLEMENT	–
488.0	570.8	574.4	PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN. See Annexes I and II	591.8
616.9	578.8	582.6	Sub-total (1)	591.8
SPECIAL PROGRAMMES (2)				
415.1	541.9	507.8	OTHER TRUST FUNDS Assistance towards determination of legal refugee status	–
46.1	30.0	25.3	PROGRAMME SUPPORT AND ADMIN. Junior Professional Officer	25.3
461.2	571.9	533.1	Sub-total (2)	25.3
1,078.1	**1,150.7**	**1,115.7**	**GRAND TOTAL (1+2)**	**617.1**

a/ of which US$ 5,120 incurred against Overall Allocation

b/ obligations incurred against Overall Allocations

ANNEX I

PROGRAMME SUPPORT & ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURE (PSA) AND PROJECT PERSONNEL EXPENDITURE (PPE) FOR THE 1994 INITIAL BUDGET

(by country or area and object of expenditure, in thousands of United States dollars)

ASIA & OCEANIA

COUNTRY or AREA	Source of Funds	CATEGORY OF SUPPORT COSTS			OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE						Variation over 1993 Rev. + (–)
		PSA	PPE	Total	Staff Costs	Travel	Contract Services	Operating Expenses	Supplies & Materials	Other	
Bangladesh	GP	–	2,550	2,550	2,175	70	7	198	45	55	(183)
	SP	39	–	39	37	2	–	–	–	–	–
Cambodia	SP	82	446	528	225	39	–	243	20	1	(4,205)
China	GP	292	–	292	232	21	–	30	4	5	(15)
	SP	105	–	105	99	6	–	–	–	–	–
Hong Kong	GP	586	879	1,465	1,386	13	–	52	9	5	(87)
	SP	–	1,115	1,115	994	6	–	102	2	11	(121)
Indonesia	GP	305	97	402	313	11	–	64	3	11	21
	SP	33	201	234	92	58	–	66	9	9	(534)
Malaysia	GP	379	215	594	484	20	–	80	5	5	(133)
	SP	–	164	164	85	16	–	49	4	10	(344)
Nepal	GP	165	901	1,066	803	47	5	154	25	32	(34)
Philippines	GP	363	271	634	481	28	–	100	20	5	29
	SP	88	478	566	366	56	–	100	34	10	(207)
Thailand	GP	953	1,079	2,032	1,775	25	1	153	58	20	(355)
	SP	180	1,080	1,260	893	88	–	238	35	6	(850)
Viet Nam	SP	44	1,440	1,484	1,177	96	–	135	42	34	39
Other Countries	GP	2,016	1,322	3,338	2,361	199	191	466	57	64	(216)
	SP	260	2,474	2,734	2,056	335	–	227	54	62	(430)
Australia and	GP	592	–	592	355	62	12	123	26	14	18
New Zealand	SP	25	–	25	23	2	–	–	–	–	(508)
Sub – Total	GP	5,651	7,314	12,965	10,365	496	216	1,420	252	216	(955)
	SP	856	7,398	8,254	6,047	704	–	1,160	200	143	(7,160)
1994 (Initial)	TOTAL	6,507	14,712	21,219	16,412	1,200	216	2,580	452	359	(8,115)
Increase/(Decrease) *	TOTAL	(305)	(7,810)	(8,115)	(6,181)	(166)	(99)	(946)	(85)	(638)	
1993 (Revised)	TOTAL	6,812	22,522	29,334	22,593	1,366	315	3,526	537	997	
1993 (Initial)	TOTAL	7,169	13,133	20,302	14,559	1,267	249	3,163	268	796	
1992 (Actuals)	TOTAL	8,615	21,359	29,974	22,524	1,775	280	3,091	432	1,872	

* 1993 (Revised) against 1994 (Initial)

ANNEX II

STAFFING REQUIREMENTS IN ASIA AND OCEANIA

(in work-years)

ASIA AND OCEANIA		1993 (revised)											1994 (initial)											Increase (Decrease) over total (excl. JPO)
		D2	D1 L6	P5 L5	P4 L4	P3 L3	P2 L2	s/Tot	NO	GS	TOT all	JPO	D2	D1 L6	P5 L5	P4 L4	P3 L3	P2 L2	s/Tot	NO	GS	TOT all	JPO	
AUSTRALIA	PSA-GP/EP	–	1.0	–	1.0	–	–	2.0	0.5	4.0	6.5	–	–	1.0	–	1.0	–	–	2.0	1.0	4.0	7.0	–	
	-SP/TP	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	0.4	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	–	
	PPE-SP/TP	–	–	–	–	4.0	1.0	5.0	–	2.0	7.0	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	–	
	Total	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	4.0	1.0	7.0	0.5	6.0	13.5	0.4	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	1.0	4.0	7.0		(6.5)
BANGLADESH	PSA-SP/TP	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	0.7	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	–	
	PPE-GP/TP	–	1.0	2.0	2.8	12.2	1.0	19.0	3.0	52.0	74.0	–	–	1.0	2.0	3.0	12.0	1.0	19.0	3.0	52.0	74.0	–	
	Total	0.0	1.0	2.0	2.8	12.2	1.0	19.0	3.0	52.0	74.0	0.7	0.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	12.0	1.0	19.0	3.0	52.0	74.0	0.0	0.0
CAMBODIA	PSA-SP/TP	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	0.5	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0		
	PPE-SP/TP	–	–	1.0	6.8	8.3	5.5	21.6	–	51.6	73.2	–	–	–	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.2	1.3	–	4.0	5.3	–	
	Total	0.0	0.0	1.0	6.8	8.3	5.5	21.6	0.0	51.6	73.2	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.2	1.3	0.0	4.0	5.3	0.0	(67.9)
CHINA	PSA-GP/EP	–	–	1.0	–	–	–	1.0	–	1.0	2.0	–	–	–	1.0	–	–	–	1.0	–	1.0	2.0	–	
	-SP/TP	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	2.3	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	0.6	
	Total	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	2.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	2.0	0.6	0.0
HONG KONG	PSA-GP/EP	–	1.0	1.0	–	–	–	2.0	–	5.0	7.0	–	–	1.0	1.0	–	–	–	2.0	–	5.0	7.0	–	
	PPE-GP/TP	–	–	–	–	4.2	–	4.2	–	6.0	10.2	–	–	–	–	–	3.5	–	3.5	–	6.0	9.5	–	
	-SP/TP	–	–	–	3.0	4.0	–	7.0	–	–	7.0	–	–	–	–	3.0	3.5	–	6.5	–	–	6.5	–	
	Total	0.0	1.0	1.0	3.0	8.2	0.0	13.2	0.0	11.0	24.2	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	3.0	7.0	0.0	12.0	0.0	11.0	23.0	0.0	(1.2)
INDIA	PSA-GP/EP	–	–	–	–	1.0	–	1.0	–	3.0	4.0	–	–	–	–	–	1.0	–	1.0	–	3.0	4.0	–	
	-SP/TP	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	0.7	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	–	
	PPE-GP/TP	–	1.0	–	–	–	–	1.0	2.0	9.0	12.0	–	–	1.0	–	–	–	–	1.0	2.0	9.0	12.0	–	
	-SP/TP	–	–	–	1.0	–	1.0	2.0	–	1.5	3.5	–	–	–	–	1.0	–	2.0	3.0	–	3.0	6.0	–	
	Total	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	4.0	2.0	13.5	19.5	0.7	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	5.0	2.0	15.0	22.0	0.0	2.5

ASIA AND OCEANIA (cont.)		1993 (revised)											1994 (initial)											Increase (Decrease) over total (excl. JPO)
		D2	D1 L6	P5 L5	P4 L4	P3 L3	P2 L2	s/Tot	NO	GS	TOT all	JPO	D2	D1 L6	P5 L5	P4 L4	P3 L3	P2 L2	s/Tot	NO	GS	TOT all	JPO	
INDONESIA	PSA-GP/EP	–	–	1.0	1.0	–	–	2.0	–	4.0	6.0	–	–	–	1.0	1.0	–	–	2.0	–	4.0	6.0	–	
	-SP/TP	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	0.5	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0		
	PPE-GP/TP	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	3.0	3.0	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	3.0	3.0	–	
	-SP/TP	–	–	–	–	4.0		4.0	–	3.0	7.0	–	–	–	–	–	0.5	–	0.5	–	0.5	1.0	–	
	Total	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	4.0	0.0	6.0	0.0	10.0	16.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.0	2.5	0.0	7.5	10.0	0.0	(6.0)
JAPAN	PSA-GP/EP	–	1.0	1.0	1.0	–	1.0	4.0	–	5.0	9.0	–	–	1.0	1.0	1.0	–	1.0	4.0	–	5.0	9.0	–	
	PPE-GP/TP	–	–	–	–	1.0	–	1.0	–	1.5	2.5	–	–	–	–	–	1.0	–	1.0	–	2.0	3.0	–	
	-SP/TP	–	–	–	1.0	–	–	1.0	–	1.0	2.0	–	–	–	–	1.0	–	–	1.0	–	1.0	2.0	–	
	Total	0.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	6.0	0.0	7.5	13.5	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	6.0	0.0	8.0	14.0	0.0	0.5
LAOS	PSA-SP/TP	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	3.7	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	0.6	
	PPE-SP/TP	–	–	1.0	0.6	1.4	–	3.0	–	17.5	20.5	–	–	–	1.0	1.0	1.0	–	3.0	–	18.0	21.0	–	
	Total	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.6	1.4	0.0	3.0	0.0	17.5	20.5	3.7	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	18.0	21.0	0.6	0.5
MALAYSIA	PSA-GP/EP	–	–	1.0	1.0	–	–	2.0	1.0	8.0	11.0	–	–	–	1.0	1.0	–	–	2.0	1.0	6.0	9.0	–	
	PPE-GP/TP	–	–	–	–	0.5	–	0.5	2.0	7.0	9.5	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	2.0	3.5	5.5	–	
	-SP/TP	–	–	–	–	1.0	–	1.0	–	1.0	2.0	–	–	–	–	–	1.0	–	1.0	–	–	1.0	–	
	Total	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.5	0.0	3.5	3.0	16.0	22.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	3.0	3.0	9.5	15.5	0.0	(7.0)
NEPAL	PSA-GP/EP	–	–	1.0	–	–	–	1.0	–	–	1.0	–	–	–	1.0	–	–	–	1.0	–	–	1.0	–	
	-SP/TP	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	1.1	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	0.9	
	PPE-GP/TP	–	–	–	0.6	5.9	–	6.5	0.5	25.0	32.0	–	–	–	–	1.0	6.0	–	7.0	1.0	32.0	40.0	–	
	Total	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.6	5.9	0.0	7.5	0.5	25.0	33.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	6.0	0.0	8.0	1.0	32.0	41.0	0.9	8.0
PAPUA	PPE-GP/TP	–	–	–	1.0	–	–	1.0	–	1.0	2.0	–	–	–	–	1.0	–	–	1.0	–	2.0	3.0	–	
NEW GUINEA	Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	2.0	3.0	0.0	1.0

ASIA AND OCEANIA (cont.)		1993 (revised)											1994 (initial)											Increase (Decrease) over total (excl. JPO)
		D2	D1 L6	P5 L5	P4 L4	P3 L3	P2 L2	s/Tot	NO	GS	TOT all	JPO	D2	D1 L6	P5 L5	P4 L4	P3 L3	P2 L2	s/Tot	NO	GS	TOT all	JPO	
PHILIPPINES	PSA-GP/EP	–	–	1.0	1.0	–	–	2.0	2.0	2.0	6.0	–	–	–	1.0	1.0	–	–	2.0	2.0	2.0	6.0	–	
	-SP/TP	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	1.8	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	–	
	PPE-GP/TP	–	–	–	–	1.0	–	1.0	0.6	3.4	5.0	–	–	–	–	–	1.0	–	1.0	1.0	3.0	5.0	–	
	-SP/TP	–	–	–	–	2.0	0.5	2.5	0.4	1.6	4.5	–	–	–	–	–	2.0	–	2.0	–	2.0	4.0	–	
	Total	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	3.0	0.5	5.5	3.0	7.0	15.5	1.8	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	3.0	0.0	5.0	3.0	7.0	15.0	0.0	(0.5)
SINGAPORE	PPE-GP/TP	–	–	–	1.0	–	–	1.0	0.2	4.0	5.2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	–	
	Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.2	4.0	5.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	0.0	(2.2)
SRI LANKA	PPE-SP/TP	–	–	1.0	1.0	5.0	1.0	8.0	1.0	24.0	33.0	–	–	–	1.0	1.0	5.0	1.0	8.0	1.0	28.0	37.0	–	
	Total	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	5.0	1.0	8.0	1.0	24.0	33.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	5.0	1.0	8.0	1.0	28.0	37.0	0.0	4.0
THAILAND	PSA-GP/EP	1.0	–	1.0	3.5	3.0	–	8.5	–	11.0	19.5	–	1.0	–	1.0	2.5	2.0	–	6.5	–	11.0	17.5	–	
	-SP/TP	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	2.6	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	0.3	
	PPE-GP/TP	–	–	–	0.5	3.5	–	4.0	10.5	18.5	33.0	–	–	–	–	–	3.0	–	3.0	9.0	16.5	28.5	–	
	-SP/TP	–	–	1.0	1.7	7.2	3.4	13.3	0.5	10.1	23.9	–	–	–	–	2.0	4.5	0.5	7.0	–	3.0	10.0	–	
	Total	1.0	0.0	2.0	5.7	13.7	3.4	25.8	11.0	39.6	76.4	2.6	1.0	0.0	1.0	4.5	9.5	0.5	16.5	9.0	30.5	56.0	0.3	(20.4)
VIET NAM	PSA-SP/TP	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	0.6	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	–	–	0.0	–	
	PPE-SP/TP	–	–	1.0	1.6	2.6	5.8	11.0	–	–	11.0	–	–	–	1.0	2.0	3.0	6.0	12.0	–	–	12.0	–	
	Total	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.6	2.6	5.8	11.0	0.0	0.0	11.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	6.0	12.0	0.0	0.0	12.0	0.0	1.0
TOTAL	PSA-GP/EP	1.0	3.0	8.0	8.5	4.0	1.0	25.5	3.5	43.0	72.0	–	1.0	3.0	8.0	7.5	3.0	1.0	23.5	4.0	41.0	68.5	–	
	-SP/TP	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	
	PPE-GP/TP	0.0	2.0	2.0	5.9	28.3	1.0	39.2	18.8	130.4	188.4	–	0.0	2.0	2.0	5.0	26.5	1.0	36.5	19.0	131.0	186.5	–	
	-SP/TP	0.0	0.0	5.0	16.7	39.5	18.2	79.4	1.9	113.3	194.6	–	0.0	0.0	3.3	11.3	21.0	9.7	45.3	1.0	59.5	105.8	–	
GRAND TOTAL		1.0	5.0	15.0	31.1	71.8	20.2	144.1	24.2	286.7	455.0	14.9	1.0	5.0	13.3	23.8	50.5	11.7	105.3	24.0	231.5	360.8	2.4	(94.2)

PSA = Programme Support and Administration; PPE = Project Personnel Expenditure; GP = General Programmes; SP = Special Programmes
EP = Established Posts; TP = Temporary Posts
JPO = Junior Professional Officer; NO = Professional National Officer; GS = General Service Staff